

THE JOURNAL

• Friday, November 26, 1999 • 50 cents (tax included)

Sports Stunned Gauchos lose playoff match to Panthers [C1]

Sports Duffy leads St. Mary's to NCS cross country title [C1]



The Bulb revisited

Like the inhabitants that lived here, the artwork on Albany's landfill face an uncertain future

By James Carter

Near the northwestern tip of a landfill in Albany known as the Bulb, there is a shrine to a monkey-god known in China as the White Bone Demon.

It is one piece in a large gallery of outdoor art.

The temple, Celtic and Hindu yet mockingly garish, is much like the Bulb itself. Assembled from the offal of a consumer society, at best it will last through the winter. Then, like the men and women who once called the landfill home, it will be swept away again and scattered by the wind.

But for now, the White Bone Demon sits comfortably, nestled amid deities and idols, anise, wildflowers and grass. But the monkey-god is an unpredictable prankster with a devilish wit, and nobody knows its plans for the Bulb.

Lances of rebar protect the site, jutting skyward with rusting menace. Other images also appear to guard the spot — Grandma Moses-like images painted on chunks of concrete planted as cockeyed as old gravestones. A devil's head sits atop a pike, as does a smiling concrete skull. All are the work of artists who secretly come and go.

The shrine is one part of a mysterious place found at land's end, where the landfill melts into the bay. And while visiting the site, one can't help but feel that someone — or something — is watching.

A path leading to a lagoon on the northern edge of the landfill passes through a portal straddling two tall columns. The portal is built of cubes of sturdy Styrofoam painted psychedelic green.

The structure is strong enough to withstand the wind and rain. However, a severe storm might topple it, suggesting its temporary nature, though the cubes' half-life approaches a thousand years.

Sitting atop the portal facing west is a statuette, an image with characteristics like those of a pirate, a druid, or a lunatic.

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A PORTAL, top, has been fashioned from Styrofoam, driftwood and debris. Center, Ashby Dancy, 38, known as Dancer, framed in the castle-like arch made of construction materials. Above, A sign asking that personal property not be touched, lays in the rubble.

PHOTOS: JOANNA JHANNA

City wants commitment on Farmers Market

A lone restaurant and a lone day for the Farmers Market called for in owners' reciprocal agreements

By J.R. Deaton

EL CERRITO— Amid charges of lost faith, the City Council last week refused to approve what was supposed to be a routine "ministerial" item on its agenda.

A resolution approving the final map for Plaza revitalization was tabled until mid-December so council members have time to study the matter of the owners' reciprocal agreements. As part of these agreements, Plaza owners want to restrict the Farmers Market to Wednesdays only, and plan to prohibit restaurants unless specifically approved by the owners.

The council refused to approve the fi-

nal map because of these proposals, which are part of the owners' Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (CC&Rs) draft agreements. They unanimously voted to table the matter until their second meeting in December, which should be Dec. 20.

Earlier this week Judith Decker, a spokeswoman for Albertsons, said the company "is giving serious consideration to the issue related to the Farmers' Market at the Plaza." She said they are seeking management approval to allow the Farmers' Market to continue on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Council members,

See MARKET, Page A10



Amended rehab measure divides council, wins approval for ballot

By J.R. Deaton

EL CERRITO—In a special session Monday night, the City Council amended and approved by a 3-2 vote the ballot measure to rehabilitate the swim center and park clubhouses. The amended measure calls for a "dedicated maintenance and capital replacement fund" financed annually from the city's general fund and indexed to the real estate property tax.

The measure calls for a March 2000 ballot vote to fund rehabilitation of the

swim center, the Canyon Trail Clubhouse and restroom facilities at Harding, Huber and Poinsett parks. It calls for a \$5.3 million special parcel tax over 20 years, and, as proposed, the maximum tax imposed on a house would be \$58.46 annually. The March 7 ballot measure would need two-thirds voter approval to pass.

Council members Norman La Force and Jane Bartke, in what should be their last working session on the council, voted

See MEASURE, Page A10

Second test of gym contradicts initial findings

No pesticide levels detected; third test planned at middle school

By Kate Darby Rauch

ALBANY — Follow-up tests have found no trace of a highly toxic chemical detected in the air of the middle school gym two weeks ago.

Superintendent Gary Mills, who released the latest results Monday, said the district will test a third time, just to be safe.

"All the (follow-up) testing was negative. Nothing surfaced in any area," Mills

said. "At this point it looks like we're on the right course. But I don't want to take any chances."

The gym at the new Albany Middle School was closed two weeks ago after an environmental health consultant found an elevated level of the chemical methyl bromide, a toxic substance used mainly as an agricultural pesticide.

The testing was done after Albany

See GYM, Page A10

High school police officer approved

By Kate Darby Rauch

ALBANY — After months of passionate discussion and debate, the school board voted Tuesday night to hire a high school police officer.

The issue has been particularly controversial, with strong sentiments expressed on both sides.

The decision won on a 3-2 vote, with Marsha Skinner, Mary Wallmann and Owen Jones in favor and David Farrell and Bill Cain against.

"I'm looking at this not as an armed guard, but as a way to get some of the things we want," said Skinner, mentioning that an officer could provide educational programs and crime prevention activities.

About 40 people attended the meeting, which was lively as parents and teachers on both sides of the issue stood up to speak. Most speakers voiced opposition to hiring the officer.

The vote results hit an emotional chord.

"I feel depressed and sad," said Ellen Fiss, the parent of a high school student. "It's a bad message to give to children. I don't think they need to resolve things by bringing in an officer to campus with a gun."

But another parent, Eileen McKenzie, was pleased.

"I'm glad it passed. I recognize the need," she said. "Police are part of our

See OFFICER, Page A5

WORTH CHECKING OUT

Suspensions, expulsions

The Albany Unified School District Board of Education will hold a "Study Session" for the board and administrators in order for legal counsel to provide updates on suspension and expulsion procedures, on Tuesday, Nov. 30 at 7 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Cornell School multi-purpose room, 901 Cornell Ave. in Albany.

Church holiday bazaar

The Arlington Community Church Holiday Bazaar will be on Saturday, Dec. 4, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 52 Arlington Ave. in Kensington. A vintage robin's egg blue '65 Volkswagen convertible will be auctioned at 2:30 p.m. Come and enjoy homemade baked goods, and hand-crafted gifts. Photos with Santa can be taken from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. A hot lunch with live music from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Children's crafts, vintage jewelry and gift books make the Arlington Community Church the best place to holiday shop.

Internet for beginners

Curious about the internet but new to computers? Sign up for free one-on-one tutoring with a Volunteer Internet Docent at the Albany Library, 1247 Marin Ave., every Saturday morning and some weekday evenings. For more information, or to make an appointment, call the Albany Library, 526-3720.

Holiday pancake event

A Holiday Pancake Breakfast and Toy Drive will be held on Saturday, Dec. 11 from 9-10 a.m. in El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane. Tickets are \$6 per person. Visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus, plus Sparky the Dog. Call 215-4377 for reservations.

Kensington Symphony

The Kensington Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of guest conductor Harvey Bernstein, will perform "Symphony No. 4" by Beethoven and "Capriccio Italien" by Tchaikovsky on Saturday, Dec. 4 at 8 p.m. at the First Baptist Church at 770 Sonoma St. in Richmond. Tickets are available at the door: they are \$10 general admission, \$8 for seniors, children under 12 are free. Details 525-4796.

Bosnian trauma survivors

Rita Maran, Ph.D., will be giving a lecture

on "Human Rights and Trauma Survivors in Bosnia: An Innovative Psycho-educational Approach." Maran teaches human rights at UC Berkeley, and she worked in Bosnia for the U.S. State Department. Her doctorate is in International Relations, and she has published widely on human rights in the U.S., Bosnia and Germany. This guest lecture is a part of the community outreach of the Center for Psychological Studies' current issues in Psychology Fall 1999 series. Reception, followed by the talk, begins at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 6. The Center for Psychological Studies is located at 1398 Solano Ave., in Albany. There is no charge to attend, but reservations are recommended. Details: 524-0291.

YMCA Giant Garage Sale

Find that special treasure at the Albany YMCA Giant Garage Sale on Saturday, Dec. 4. The Giant Garage Sale will take place at the Albany YMCA, 921 Kains Ave., near the corner of Solano and San Pablo avenues, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. The sale will feature everything from clothing and children's toys to household and office items. Proceeds will be used to help support Albany YMCA youth and senior classes. For more information, please call 525-1130.

Buddy Club show

The Buddy Club series of kids shows presents juggling and comedy with Ringling Bros. favorite Maggie the Clown and singer Randy McCommons on Dec. 5 at 11 a.m. at the Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin Ave., Albany. Admission: \$7 (510) 652-3200.

Gallery Showcase

The public is invited to view the current exhibit at the Gallery Showcase located at the Albany Community Center Library Complex, 1249 Marin Ave. in the Albany Recreation and Community Services Department office. The current show features the ceramic works of artist, Patricia O'Neill, who studied with Richard Akers, is a native Californian who currently resides in Crockett, and devotes much of her time to her art. The show will be up through Dec. 12 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Animal Services logo

The Contra Costa County Animal Ser-

vices Department is looking for a logo and Local artists are encouraged to enter a logo contest. The logo will be used to depict the role of the Animal Services Department in helping animals in our community. A \$500 cash prize will be awarded to the winning artist. The deadline for entering artwork in the contest is Dec. 15. The logo must include the name Contra Costa County Animal Services and should be a simple, bold, camera-ready design drawn in black ink on white paper. Size of the logo should be approximately 8 inches by 8 inches. For more information about the Animals Services Department and a list of guidelines to enter the logo contest write to Contra Costa County Animal Services Department, 4849 Imhoff Place, Martinez, CA 94553 or call 925-672-2829.

History museum hours

The Richmond Museum of History, 400 Nevin Ave., in Richmond, announces new open hours from 1 to 4 p.m. on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays. During the holiday season we will be closed Nov. 24-27 and Dec. 20-Jan. 2. On exhibit through Jan. 10, "Shades of Richmond: Fifty Years of Family Photos." Permanent exhibits highlight Richmond's agricultural beginnings, industrial growth, and homefront war efforts during World War II. Admission is always free. Call 235-7387 for more information or to arrange tours.

Holiday Craft Fair

The East Bay Sanctuary's Annual Holiday Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, Dec. 4 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 5 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Held at the First Congregational Church of Berkeley, Channing Way at Dana Street, the Fair features hand-crafted items from women's cooperatives in Central America. Clothing, table decorations, tree ornaments, jewelry and numerous other items are to be found. This year folk art from Haiti, American Indian pueblos, Nepal and Thailand are also included. Many items are under \$10. On Saturday, Dec. 4 from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m., the Fair will focus on Haiti with a special presentation from the latest Bay Area delegation to that country. At that time Haitian art work will be discounted to 25 percent. Proceeds from the event support indigenous artisans and the refugee justice work of the East Bay Sanctuary Covenant.

Thief uses 'doggy door' for entrance

By K. Osborn

ALBANY — On the afternoon of Nov. 14 a Berkeley man reported that his silver '85 Toyota Corolla was stolen while parked on the 500 block of Pierce Street. There were no witnesses.

■ At about 1 a.m. on Nov. 15 officers responded to the 1000 block of San Pablo Avenue on reports of a man and a woman arguing while at the gas pumps at the AM/PM. Officers contacted the couple and a check found that the 30-year-old San Francisco man had an outstanding parole warrant from the State Department of Correction. He was arrested and transported to the Berkeley jail to await pickup by the state.

■ At about 2:30 a.m. on Nov. 15 Oakland police contacted the Albany Police Department to report locating a gray '85 Toyota van stolen from Albany several months ago. The vehicle was not damaged and Oakland police had one suspect in custody. The owner was notified.

■ At about 9 a.m. on Nov. 15 Albany officers responded to the 500 block of Jackson Street on reports of a possible burglary when neighbors heard the sound of breaking glass. Officers investigated and learned that a husband and wife were having an argument over the phone and the husband threw the phone out the closed window. There was no action taken.

■ On the morning of Nov. 16 two residents on the 500 block of Pierce Street reported that during the night thieves had broken into their Honda and Mazda pickup. In each case the thieves performed a very messy prowls and stole items. There were no witnesses in either incident.

■ On the afternoon of Nov. 16 officers contacted a 50-year-old man who had broken into the Mobile Transition Center near the landfill and was staying inside. He was arrested for breaking and entering, cited and released with a Notice to

Due to an early deadline the El Cerrito blotter will not run this week.

Appear.

■ On the evening of Nov. 16 a resident on the 500 block of Curtis Street reported that when he returned home he discovered that thieves had broken in and performed a very messy prowls. They stole various items before departing unseen.

■ Shortly before 1 p.m. on Nov. 17 a resident on the 1000 block of Cornell Avenue reported that when he returned home after being away for about one hour he discovered that thieves had broken in through a rear window. They performed a very messy prowls, stole various items and departed without being seen.

■ On the afternoon of Nov. 17 officers responded to the area of Key Route Boulevard and Portland Avenue on reports of a red '91 Mazda Miata that vandals had spray painted. There were no witnesses.

■ On the evening of Nov. 17 a resident on the 700 block of Talbot Avenue reported that on returning home she discovered that thieves had broken into her home through a rear window. A similar situation happened to a woman on the 700 block of Talbot Avenue. In both incidences the thieves departed unseen.

■ At about 4 p.m. on Nov. 18 officers responded to the 500 block of Cleveland Avenue on reports of a group of juveniles drinking and causing a disturbance. Officers contacted the group and found that one in the group, an 18-year-old Albany man had an outstanding warrant and a no bail warrant from the Alameda County Juvenile Probation Office. He was arrested and transported to the Juvenile Detention Facility.

■ At about 10:30 p.m. on Nov. 18 officers responded to the Ivy Room

on the 800 block of San Pablo Avenue on reports of a break-in between two patrons. One person had referred to another as turning with a gun. The two patrons had an outstanding warrant in Oakland. He was cited with a Notice to Appear.

■ On the morning of Nov. 18 a resident on the 900 block of Solano Street reported that when he returned home he discovered that thieves had stolen his Mountain Bike from his front porch. He was a witness.

■ On the morning of Nov. 18 officers responded to reports of a car stolen. One car, from the 400 block of Solano Avenue and the other from the 500 block of Lynn Avenue. There were no witnesses.

■ At about 10:30 a.m. on Nov. 18 a resident on the 1000 block of Key Route Boulevard and Portland Avenue reported that when he returned home he discovered that vandals had spray painted the rear window. There were no witnesses.

■ On the afternoon of Nov. 18 officers responded to the area of Key Route Boulevard and Portland Avenue on reports of a red '91 Mazda Miata that vandals had spray painted. There were no witnesses.

■ On the evening of Nov. 18 a resident on the 700 block of Talbot Avenue reported that on returning home she discovered that thieves had broken into her home through a rear window. A similar situation happened to a woman on the 700 block of Talbot Avenue. In both incidences the thieves departed unseen.

■ During the week of Nov. 18 officers responded to the 500 block of Cleveland Avenue on reports of a group of juveniles drinking and causing a disturbance. Officers contacted the group and found that one in the group, an 18-year-old Albany man had an outstanding warrant and a no bail warrant from the Alameda County Juvenile Probation Office. He was arrested and transported to the Juvenile Detention Facility.

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Focus on Rhoda L. Agin, Ph.D

Rhoda Agin is Professor of Communicative Sciences and Disorders at the California State University at Hayward and owner-director of Communication Associates in Albany. Agin completed her doctor training in craniofacial anomalies and laryngeal physiology at the University of Illinois Medical Center in Chicago.

Agin is a lecturer, therapist and workshop leader specializing in voice treatment/training for speakers, actors and singers (including gospel to opera genres) and post-neurological trauma.

In 1985, Agin received a California State University Specialized Training Grant for the study of speech pathology in the Soviet Union.

In 1987, Agin was awarded the Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Communicative Diversity in Multicultural Populations at Howard University in Washington, D.C.

She was the voice specialist on the faculty of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association Con-

ference on "Teaching Cultural Diversity Within the Profession Education Curriculum." Her co-authored "Guide to Pronunciation of Asian Names" was published in August 1992.

She has been a member of the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, Voice and Voice Disorders Experts Panel, and Research Planning Panel for Minority Persons. In Spring 1993, Spring 1994 and Communicative Disorders of the Sackler School of Medicine at Tel Aviv University and Visiting Professor in the Department of Orthodontics in the School of Dental Medicine at Tel Aviv University.

Agin served as Director of the International Students Program of the California State University System for 1995-96 at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Israel. Her book chapter titled "Pediatric Voice Therapy in Culturally Diverse Populations" is in print.

If you or your organization would like to become involved in this year's Groundhog/Job Shadow Day event

haps one might think she could be stuffy or all business, but let me tell you, this wonderful woman is warm and friendly, and she is also a singer and an accomplished violinist. Welcome to the neighborhood Agin.

Groundhog/Job Shadow Day

On Feb. 2, 2000, America's Promise, the National School-to-Work Opportunities Office, Junior Achievement and the American Society of Association Executives will celebrate GJSD.

On this day, half a million students across America will get an up-close look at how the skills they learn in school are put into action in the workplace by shadowing a mentor as he or she goes through a normal day on the job.

We hope you will support our high school community and participate in this important event that will pioneer at Albany High School this year with 60 seniors.

If you or your organization would like to become involved in this year's Groundhog/Job Shadow Day event

haps one might think she could be

on Feb. 2, please call Marjorie Weingrow, AHS Career Development Consultant, at 524-6027 or email her at mweingrow@atmail.com. Or you can access the National Groundhog Job Shadow Day Web site at www.jobshadow.org for more information.

Michael J. Doucet, D.D.S.

Dr. Doucet, who was featured a few months ago, at his new facility at 500 San Pablo Avenue, AHS had some excellent news.

The Accreditation Association has awarded him a three year certificate of accreditation for Ambulatory Health Care, Inc.

This is the highest level of recognition offered by the Chicago-based accrediting organization.

It means that Dr. Doucet and the facility, "is in substantial compliance with the accreditation committee's standards and that the committee has no reservations about Dr. Doucet's commitment to continue providing high-quality care and services as reflected in the standards."

Albany Chamber

By Roxanne Wiley

Congratulations to your Dr. Doucet!

Mixer News

Our very last social function for the year will be at the Mechanics Bank at 801 San Pablo Ave., Albany, on Dec. 15, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. There will be excellent noshing and all that goes with it.

When you come, bring some canned goods for our barrel that go to a worthy cause. See you there.

Win the bike

It is not too late to get a slew of tickets for the Dec. 20 drawing of the Hard Rock bicycle.

They are \$1 each or 12 for \$10. Just give us a call at 525-1771 and we will deliver.



PICTURED ABOVE is Dr. Rhoda L. Agin at her office at 1322 Solano Ave.

The Arlington Community Church cordially invites you to the

New Year's Eve Dinner Dance TURN OF THE CENTURY MASQUERADE BALL

Featuring music by the Blue Daddies

Child and infant care available

For reservations call (510) 526-9146. Paid reservations before

Dec. 1st cost \$20-\$45 with group & senior discounts



Strawberry Creek Downtown COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

The City of Berkeley will hold two community workshops to discuss the recently completed "Data Collection Study to Daylight Strawberry Creek in the Downtown Area." The purpose of this study is to provide a logical framework within which to evaluate the options for daylighting Strawberry Creek in Downtown Berkeley. The study does not specifically propose or eliminate any options, but does provide data and some analysis to inform the community dialogue and to assist the City Council in determining if and how to proceed with this project.

The same information will be covered at each workshop. Please attend one of the following workshops.

WORKSHOP #1

Wednesday, December 1, 1999 • 6:30 PM - 9:15 PM

North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Avenue Berkeley, CA 94704

WORKSHOP #2

Saturday, December 4, 1999 • 10:00 AM - 12:45 PM

North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Avenue Berkeley, CA 94704

Copies of the study are available at each branch of the Berkeley Public Library. A summary of the report is on the City's website at www.ci.berkeley.ca.us

For additional information, please contact:

Deborah Chernin, Project Manager

City of Berkeley Office of Capital Projects

(510) 665-7554

dec2@berkeley.ca.us

TDD: (510) 644-6915

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Kensington issues aired at town hall session

Emergency response, West County's role in suburban sprawl among topics

By J.R. Deaton

EL CERRITO — Nearly 90 people attended the Kensington Improvement Club's annual town hall meeting last week in the Kensington school auditorium. At the meeting were state Sen. Don Perata, D-Oakland, and Contra Costa Supervisor John Gatto, Kensington Chief of Police Harry Garfield, El Cerrito/Kensington Fire Chief Mark Scott and several civic leaders. Each made short speeches and then answered written questions from the audience. A wide range of topics was discussed, including the Kensington Park fund raising drive, urban limit lines, teacher salaries and the problem of large homes on small Kensington lots. Talking about the state's education system, Perata said he wants to raise the starting pay of teachers to the same level of starting police officers and firefighters. "I believe that we are going to value public service, we have to value it equally," Perata said. "All of these men and women make fundamental contributions to the whole health of our community."

See ISSUES, Page A5



STATE SEN. DON PERATA speaks at the Kensington meeting.

JESSE ZANZINGER

Local author pens a tale of West Africa and America

By J.R. Deaton

Ason, plan to kill the Americans, who are held prisoner and guarded by the fearsome Kumba Guard.

With courage and daring, Goldsmith leads an escape that eventually results in a safe return home for him and his compatriots. He then returns to Azanta to claim his rightful crown and kingship.

The 47-year-old Oddoye said his first novel is an attempt to educate people "about Africa and about the positivities in connection with African-Americans." He also said the story "highlights how people can rise above adversities and still be able to be successful." His novel uses names and mythology familiar to modern-day West Africans.

Oddoye came to the United States 20 years ago and has lived in El Cerrito since 1980.

He runs his own company that markets African textiles, but has hopes to make it as a full-time writer. "It's not a hobby," Oddoye said. "With this novel, this becomes my primary occupation now." He is planning a sequel to "The Return" that will cover the events that happen to Prince Dadensroja after he is put on the slave ship.

Throughout Oddoye's novel are footnotes explaining the African terms and customs used in the story. The reader learns about such things as Fontomfrom drums and Atentenben horns and Kente cloth. By the end of the novel, the reader is fa-



DAVID ODDOYE'S book, 'The Return,' is an action-adventure thriller set at the Berkeley marina with ties to West African ancestry and culture.

miliar with at least some aspects of West African culture.

At times Oddoye's writing becomes too didactic. For example, when the Americans have escaped the jungle and are entering the modern African city of Yamasukro, they take time to engage in erudite discussion about deficiencies of the modern American media and education system. It just doesn't seem realistic that they would be discussing such matters at that time.

Overall, however, time spent with Oddoye's novel is well worth it. The African tales are fascinating and the footnoted African words used

throughout the book give the reader unique perspectives. And it somehow feels right that an African-American tale has African and African-American heroes, and Tarzan is nowhere in sight.

David Paul Oddoye's "The Return" is available in bookstores and locally at M.C. Newburn Books in Albany and at Marcus Book Stores in Oakland and San Francisco. It is also available on-line at Amazon.com.

Study: high fire danger at Wildcat Canyon

By J.R. Deaton

EL CERRITO — A new computer-assisted study confirms what local firefighters have known for years — Wildcat Canyon along El Cerrito's eastern border represents a fire threat to the city. Interim Fire Chief Mark Scott said the fuel modeling study, commissioned by the East Bay Regional Park Service and presented by consultants at last week's City Council meeting, "validated" what fire professionals have long known. "We're here tonight to tell you that it will burn," Scott told the council and the public at the meeting.

In his report to the City Council, Scott said "no action is required at this time," but added the findings may "suggest a future focus for public safety efforts."

The need for fuel breaks between park and urban lands was emphasized. Scott told the council that a "partnership" between El Cerrito and the park district is needed for fire safety. Scott said a fire starting at the bottom of the canyon would take about a half hour to reach the top of the ridge.

Using a slide show and computer graphics, councilmembers were shown how fires would likely burn under various conditions. The study used aerial photography of the canyon and took into account such things as geography, soils, vegetation, winds and weather conditions.

Councilman Norman La Force said cities could use the information

from the computer modeling to identify areas where a fire is most likely to enter their residential areas. He said the cities may want to require, if legal to do so, extra protection on the houses in those areas. La Force also said the information could be used to make sure fire stations and fire vehicles are built and positioned in the right places.

In his report to the City Council, Scott said the new findings are significant because they confirm the "Wildcat Canyon fire starts are very dangerous to El Cerrito and Kensington safety and under certain conditions, unstoppable." He said the findings confirm the fact that the city's fire prevention efforts "will only be successful if there is an adequate fuel break between park land and the urban edge."

Scott said that fire would be fought at the top of the ridge and would be "an eminently fightable fire" with adequate water, resources and "defensible space."

He said the fire front would be relatively narrow and that the slope of Wildcat Canyon is relatively uniform. "It's a little bit different condition than you had in the Oakland hills where you had canyons running every which way," Scott told the council.

The Fire Department and the Maintenance and Engineering Department will be working with park district staff and the new information from the computer modeling studies to enhance fire protection efforts, Scott said.

IN BRIEF

'Fantasy in the Woods'

Children of all ages will have the chance to sip hot cider and cocoa, stars and twinkling lights sparkling in their eyes as they ride the carousel this season at the Tilden Park merry-go-round.

"Fantasy In The Woods," an evening celebration from Nov. 26 to Christmas Eve, will illuminate the hills with lights and decorations designed in part by Mary Engelbreit, creator of "The Queen of Everything," "Princess of Quite a Lot," and other memorable tales. Theme trees will feature gingerbread folk, snowmen, reindeer, and even a Mardi Gras Frog, as well as ideas on how to establish creative environments at home and in preschools.

Bos is the author of three books on creativity for young children; "Don't Move The Muffin Tins," "Before The Basics," and "Together We Are Better." For over 30 years, Bos has been the director of the Roseville Community Preschool, which was featured on ABC's "20/20" as an example of an ideal preschool program. This event benefits El Cerrito Preschool Cooperative, a nonprofit parent cooperative which is Contra Costa County's oldest preschool.

Tickets are \$15 per person, with group discounts available. The event is adults only and seating is limited. For tickets and information, call 526-1916.

Creativity and children

EL CERRITO — Nationally acclaimed

European Christmas Market
Sunday, Nov. 28
10am - 4pm
Traditional European Crafts & Food, Music & Entertainment

Why are we unique?

Friendship or privacy ... that is your option at the Altenheim. Our seniors can enjoy the lovely park setting or involve themselves in daily activities. Residents enjoy a satisfying life at a value that is priced to accommodate the senior community. Assisted Living Services are available.

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- Restaurant Style Dining
- Housekeeping & linen service
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ARV



Opinion

MAYOR'S VIEWPOINT

Progress report on financing the El Cerrito Swim Center

By Gina Brusatori

On Nov. 22, the City Council introduced an ordinance to place a special tax on the March 7, 2000 ballot. The tax will pay for the renovation and reconstruction of the El Cerrito Swim Center, rehabilitating the Canyon Trail clubhouse and performing access and restroom renovations to the Harding, Huber and Poinsett clubhouses.

The City Council, which will include the two newly elected council members, Janet Abelson and Kathie Perka, will meet at 8 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 29 to pass this ordinance and place it on the March ballot. The public is invited to attend.

The ordinance will include language in the ballot measure that I strongly advocate because it establishes an important new principal to fund maintenance and capital improvements of city facilities over the long term.

For the duration of the tax, the City Council shall establish a dedicated maintenance and capital replacement fund financed each fiscal year by the amount the revenues from the real property transfer tax exceeds the sum of \$250,000. The \$250,000 figure shall be adjusted every five years by the Bay Area Consumer Price Index. In funding the dedicated fund, the City Council may utilize monies from any source of funds available including the sales tax, user fees, and so forth.

The additional language achieves several goals. It confirms to voters that if they pass the March ballot measure, the city will spend money to maintain and improve our city-owned facilities besides the Swim Center and park projects listed above. Voters will effectively stop the decades long trend of deferring maintenance and capital expenditures.

El Cerrito voters are eager to improve our existing facilities and protect our investment in new facilities through regular maintenance. The new language gives us the opportunity to address our play fields, public safety building and streets as well as other projects such as curb cuts for disabled access and increased tree maintenance.

The additional language benefits our city workers. The \$250,000 base figure will be adjusted periodically for inflation, which helps us continue to deliver our current level of services. Many sources of revenue coming on line will more than offset funds that will be dedicated to maintenance and capital improvements in the future. New sources include about \$150,000 in sales taxes from Del Norte Marketplace (Walgreens, Staples and PepBoys), about \$900,000 in Redevelopment Agency debt payments to the city, and over \$500,000 anticipated from the El Cerrito Plaza revitalization efforts.

Maintenance and capital improvement funds will help us provide safe, functional and attractive work environments for our city workers at sites including the public safety building and childcare centers. We not only need to fix leaky

roofs, but also upgrade many of our 30- to 40-year-old facilities. As the experience of our schools has shown, when facilities are in good repair, adults and children benefit enormously.

Ordinance details

Besides the additional language, I wanted to share highlights of the ordinance. Its structure closely follows what I had favored in my recent Mayor's Viewpoint article and represents the collective wisdom of the community expressed during the past few months. I believe that the tax, with the additional language noted above, is widely acceptable and can achieve the required two-thirds voter approval to pass.

The tax will provide \$5.3 million in net proceeds to cover \$4.9 million to rebuild the 37-year-old swim center including the two existing pools, new locker rooms, new pump room and small meeting room in the adjacent community center. Another \$400,000 will fund several park projects including the Canyon Trail clubhouse that has been closed for 2 years due to structural problems. Residents and city staff alike will thus be able to enjoy attractive and functionally improved facilities that meet current health and safety codes.

The tax will have a 20-year term. This lowers the annual tax payment and spreads the cost of the swim center and park improvements over those who purchase homes or other property over the next 20 years, not just our existing property owners. Property owners will pay for the projects as they benefit from them.

The special tax will cost every homeowner about \$58 per year. The tax is equitable because we will levy a parcel tax instead of an ad valorem tax based on a property's assessed value. Newer residents, regardless of what part of the city they live, will not have to pay a tax that is many times larger than that paid by long-time residents, especially those who purchased homes prior to Prop. 13. Most residents consider the swim center a focal point in defining their "quality of life" in El Cerrito and all will benefit from the new swim center.

The ballot measure will include special provisions for senior citizens, blind or disabled property owners under various State of California programs.

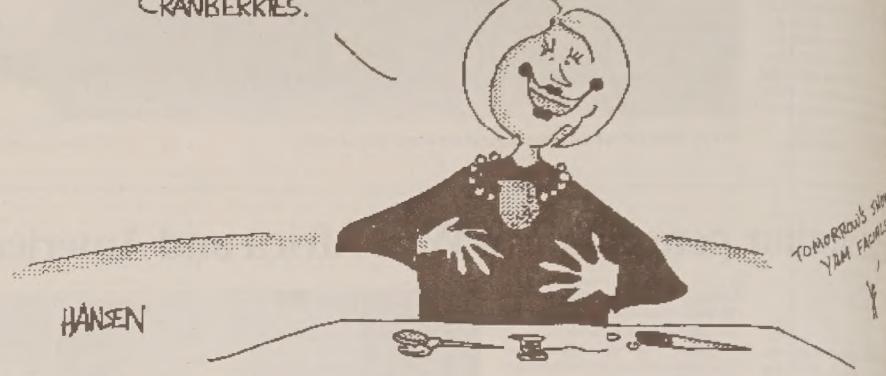
Fundraising, grants and contributions will be encouraged to reduce the amount or term of the tax, but we will not require minimum levels given the timing of the ballot measure.

The swim center and clubhouses will have their own dedicated fund for maintenance and future reconstruction financed through user fees, maintenance cost savings (such as from a more energy-efficient heating system), or other sources of revenue.

Let's join together and address our near-term need to finance the swim center and parks and establish a long-term plan to finance our many other capital improvements and maintenance needs.

MARTHA STEWART THE DAY AFTER THANKSGIVING

NOT SURE WHAT TO DO WITH THOSE THANKSGIVING LEFTOVERS? I'VE MADE A LOVELY TURKEY-LIVER PENDANT ACCENTED BY VIVID RED NEW ENGLAND CRANBERRIES.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Club Garden-of-the-Month contest

On Feb. 1, 2000, the El Cerrito Garden Club will announce its first Garden-of-the-Month contest winners. There will be three winners that month, and you could be one of them! The object of the contest is to inspire all of us El Cerrito residents to take a second look at our gardens, or whatever space we have, to see what we can do to beautify it.

The Sundar Shadi Garden contest will occur six times a year, sometimes two months at a stretch: February-March, April-May, June, July, August, and September-October. We are asking you to nominate yourself anonymously. When you subsequently receive a letter from the Garden Club we will ask you to choose the months you would like to be considered for. The more the better.

Is your problem that your garden isn't big or fancy, or maybe you live in an apartment with only a dream of having a yard? This contest is still for you, too!

There are three categories of gardens in this contest:

1) Large gardens, for those of us fortunate enough to have one.

2) Medium gardens: Any gardens between large size and small size. Read on.

3) Small gardens: These are for tiny gardens, if that is all the space you have. Small gardens also include apartment dwellers, condominium dwellers, commercial gardens, even fences. In other words, it answers the question "How interesting did you make use of the little space that you have?" You may have an interesting fence, or beautiful flower pots outside your door, or perhaps a storefront.

Since the total number of possible winners comes to 18 per year, your chances of having one of the beautiful hand-painted signs (designed and painted by Thelma Gillespie, president of the El Cerrito Art Association) accompanying your plants in your yard are probably quite good.

We would be delighted if you would nominate your own garden, and anyone else's. You can submit the needed information to the El Cerrito Garden Club, P.O. Box 203, El Cerrito, CA 94530, or simpler yet you can call Vera Shadi's voice mail at 869-3977 and leave the address(es) and nearest cross street so we can locate it easily (no name is needed). Or you can e-mail me at verashadi@aol.com. Just nominate a garden and we'll figure out the category.

There are only two rules: 1) Since the object of the contest is to beautify the city for all of us, the garden must be visible from the street. 2) El Cerrito Garden Club members will not be eligible.

Now, put this paper down, go and give me a call (869-3977), and run outside and start planning your garden! You can do it!

Vera Shadi
Chair Sundar Shadi Garden Contest Committee El Cerrito Garden Club

Separating the men from the boys

We can't make up our minds and be consistent — are minors adults or children?

An 11-year-old boy prosecuted as an adult?

Are we nuts? He is a kid!

Can't have sex until you are 18, but your body is ready when you are 15. Why does an 18-year-old girl get arrested for having sex with a 17-year-old boy?

Why can we vote at 18, but we can't drink until we are 21? Doesn't it take more maturity to vote than it does to drink?

We can sign a contract or get married at 18, but we can't drink until we are 21. Why?

We are mature enough to drive when we are 15, but we don't trust kids until they are 16, and then they have numerous restrictions.

When you do not trust kids and give them responsibility, they will remain kids. Because we have stupid laws, kids must break laws because they are too old for these restrictions.

We put more and more kids in jail. Let's make new reasonable laws! Sex at 15. Smoke at 15. Drink at 18. Drive at 15. Vote at 18. Married at 18. Contract at 18. Responsible and prosecuted as an adult at 18. Sidney Steinberg, Berkeley

Promoting local candidacies

Term limits and a large abundance of issues has created a greater awareness of local office-holders, local measures and political parties.

Local office-holders especially know the diligence needed to protect the local property taxes from raids by state office-holders.

Local office-holders and candidates for local office are generally tuned-in and have the best ability to tune up county political parties and the electorate each serves, on a pure and year-out basis.

Parties, without cost, can be taken out at the County Elections Department between now and Dec. 10, for all member positions of all county political parties. Yes, a person may be a candidate for County Supervisor and also appear on the "same ballot" as a candidate for a County Central Committee Member position.

A local elected office-holder who is not up for election, can appear as a candidate at County Central Committee March 7, on the ballot distributed within the whole Supervisors District for all voters, within his/her political party. Of course the same candidacy is available for each voter who is affiliated with a political party, who completes the necessary paperwork.

John Burt, Martinez

ple, shows the wear of the and will need increased protection to ensure its survival. Your congressional delegation know how you feel about protecting America's heritage. It is demonstrable thanks to the memories of the past, we all help to provide memories for generations of the future.

Tom Kiernan is the president of the National Parks and Conservation Association (NPCA). NPCA's only nonprofit membership organization dedicated solely to protecting and enhancing the U.S. National Park System. Contact NPCA at 202-223-6212 or visit the Web at <http://www.NPCA.org>.

Nation's past and its promise found in its national parks

By Tom Kiernan

PRESIDENT, NATIONAL PARKS AND CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

Thanksgiving Day marks an occasion not only for giving thanks but also for looking back at the times that shaped America's diverse cultures into a nation. This past Thanksgiving in the National Park System, which has preserved scores of historic sites.

You may learn something new about your American roots at those sites. Consider, for example, the first Thanksgiving. It took place not at Plymouth, Massachusetts, as many of us might think, but near Jamestown, Virginia, where the first permanent English colony was established.

As the National Park System also shows, the settlers of Jamestown were New World late-comers compared to the Spanish and French. The Spanish built the first permanent European settlements in North America, beginning in 1565 with St. Augustine, Florida. There you can still visit a 17th century Spanish

fort at Castillo de San Marcos National Monument. French Huguenots nearly tied the Spanish for first place, settling at about the same time at a site now memorialized in Jacksonville, Florida, at Fort Caroline National Memorial.

Thanks to the National Park System, we can enjoy the full spectrum of human life in America. Chaco Culture National Historical Park in New Mexico, for example, features 13 major cliff dwellings that represent the height of Pueblo culture, dating back more than 1,000 years. In Hawaii, Kaloko-Honokohau National Historical Park protects sites where Hawaiian villages stood before European contact.

Thanks also to the National Park System, this winter you can confront personally the tribulations that tested the will of General George Washington and the Continental Army while in their 1777-8 winter quarters, still preserved at Valley Forge National Historical Park, in Pennsylvania. And at Colonial National Historical Park you can stroll the Yorktown, Virginia battlefield where the British surrendered in 1781, ending the American Revolution.

The park system also takes you into the lives of historic figures who made America great. Booker T. Washington National Monument, near Hardy, Virginia, features the plantation where

Washington was born a slave in 1856 and from which he would grow to be an orator and educator and the founder of the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. Similarly, Edison National Historical Site preserves the home of Thomas A. Edison in West Orange, New Jersey, where he invented the phonograph and the movie camera.

Our nation's diverse history is nowhere better encountered than in the National Park System. The protected historic sites speak to us across the years, telling us to remember and to revere. We can show reverence by providing needed care for these sites, many of which suffer from lack of proper upkeep. Chaco, for example,

GENERAL MANAGER • RUTH MARICICH

EDITOR • CHRIS TREADWAY

ALBANY • EL CERRITO • KENSINGTON
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— Thomas Jefferson, 1787

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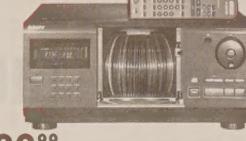
Geary, San Mateo, WOW!, Concord, Walnut Creek, McCarthy Ranch, Tully Road

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28 FROM 1 P.M. TO 5 P.M.

Stonestown, East Palo Alto, Fairfield, Pinole, Emeryville, Santa Clara



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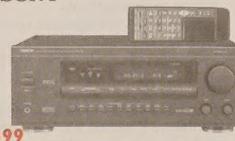
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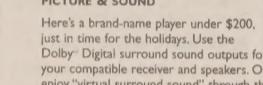
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Bulb

FROM PAGE A1

character adds to the mystery of the Bulb. Is the little man saying "good-bye, good luck, you'll need it," or "this way back to civilization?"

Either way, the statuette's twisted expression suggests irony.

Walking toward the bay, there's a playground of sorts built of rubble—not a safe one, which adds to its allure. Near the shore, there's a large sculpture of a scuttled ship with a life saver that reads, "extra dry, sniff boat."

"A curse upon any hand or foot that does damage to this boat," a hand-painted sign reads.

At the last point of land, a spike points skyward, protected by outstretched hands. Nearby, a painting of a seductive woman calls to one with a siren's voice.

Off in the distance, perhaps 100 yards away, a 22-foot sailboat bobs in the waters of the bay, sails tethered, anchor dropped.

Though curtains are pulled shut, one gets the sense there are people aboard, and that they are watching every move that you make.

Could it be the artists?

Around the rim of the northwestern end of the landfill are a series of concrete blocks shaped like tombs. At one, an artist depicts a blissful couple naked in the sun, though the rough edges of the concrete make details obscure.

On the south side of the Bulb, the only apparent artwork is that created by men who bulldozed sections of buildings and walls of masonry off a cliff years ago. However one famous structure shaped like a castle stands atop a cliff of rubble. At one time, people who lived on the Bulb would stand framed by the arch-shaped window of the castle while visiting Mad Mark, the building's creator.

But all are gone now. Or so it is said.

Following the trail leading back to the city, there is yet another landfill known as the Plateau. There are signs of a village there—or the remains of one.

A 40-foot square of rubbish lay flattened where a man named Radley once had a house. Months ago it sat soundly as any home built by frontiersmen a century before.

Dismantled by East Bay Regional

Parks to make room for a proposed shoreline park, Radley's place once had a roof, an elevated floor, doors, windows and three rooms. A kitchen and living room filled one corner of the house, complete with a jury-rigged sink and a counter top. In the back was Radley's bedroom, with glass windows that opened and closed, and on the west side was a loft with a sunroom.

Yet city officials from Albany argue there were no houses at the Plateau—only "structures," they say. "There were structures built of two-by-fours that had no running water, nor electricity," they insist. "But there were no houses."

A year ago, Radley lived where there's nothing now. Back then, he stood on the front porch of his structure and smoked a cigarette. A man of few words, Radley glanced at his place with just a hint of pride and said "it's not much, but at least it's something."

Where there once were many such structures, though none comparable to Radley's, there are now flattened ruins full of endless plastic objects—toothpaste tubes, shampoo bottles, milk cartons, combs, bags, hairbrushes, forks and spoons.

Nearly every spot has the rim of a bicycle wheel or rusted handlebars nearby. Canned goods are not uncommon, and a number of books and magazines have survived, though most are moldy and ruined. Among Radley's abandoned library is a hard-bound book labeled, "VA. Benefits." Another yellowing paperback entitled, "Choosing Herbs," and a third "The Bargain Hunters Book."

Apparently, when Radley was told to leave his structure, he decided he didn't need them anymore.

Beyond the ruins and tangled rebar, abandoned boots and socks and clothing, past the neatly stacked lines of cut coyote bush stacked in even rows, there is a trail that runs east to west. While walking the trail, wood ducks steam out into the bay in formation and coromants stretch their necks, black wings flapping as fast as a bat.

Many of the vistas are spectacular.

A shoreline park will be built at both the Bulb and the Plateau someday. Funds have been allocated, plans are on the drawing board, and public opinion firmly supports such a move.

What happens to the artwork is less certain, as is the future of the people who once called both places home.

Market

FROM PAGE A1

however, may be expecting more of a commitment given their statements last week.

"I don't want to see any restriction on the Farmers Market that's more restricted than what we have now," said Councilman Mark Friedman. "I think all along we've been very clear that we wanted the Farmers Market continued existence to be part of any final plan for the Plaza. No way can I support approval taking it just to Wednesday."

Currently the Farmers Market operates on Tuesdays and Saturdays at the Plaza. Other members of the City Council also voiced their support for the Farmers Market. Additional concerns were raised about the restaurant restrictions and other apparent restrictions in the CC&Rs.

Councilman Norman La Force

noted that he and the other councilmembers did not receive copies of the owners' CC&Rs until just prior to the council meeting. Of the owners' plans to change the Farmers Market, La Force said: "Frankly I view this as a real breach of good faith on the part of the owners." He said that to have the market on a weekday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. is "totally worthless for the public at large. And I think it just shows that really the intent is to get rid of it."

La Force also said the council has talked about the need for more "good dining establishments in the city of El Cerrito" and said he had concerns about the restaurant restrictions in the CC&Rs.

Major Gina Brusatori also argued against the restaurant restrictions.

"If we don't have that opportunity to have more restaurants, as a choice, in the internal part of the mall—it just makes it tend to be a strip mall," she said.

"My take on this is the owners are trying to ram this through like they've done at the last minute," La Force said.

The council rejected late pleas from Plaza Project Manager Ronald Holley and Plaza architect Edward Gee to reconsider. Referring to apparent delays in Plaza revitalization and past actions by the City Council to accommodate the owners, Brusatori told Holley and Gee, "I think this is just really not what the community had in mind and I don't think it's what the council had in mind when we went through all the loops earlier this year."

El Cerrito Planning Manager Jill Keimach said parking concerns are behind the draft CC&Rs agreements in question.

"The concern is, that if you have a lot of restaurants that have access facing north to the center of the Plaza—with the Longs and Albertson's—then they're going to be competing for the parking," Keimach said.

"That's basically what the City Council is doing—if you have a restaurant, you have access to the north, you're going to be competing for the parking," Keimach said.

"If this Plaza is as successful as we all hope it will be, then we're going to be at a premium, and what they (the owners) want to do is keep the Plaza open, but keep it on a day-to-day basis," Keimach said. "But I don't realize what a strong business support the Farmers Market has."

The new City Council, with council members Janet Abel and Kathleen Perka, should reorganize and meet Dec. 20.

Measure

FROM PAGE A1

against the measure.

There were worries that the fixed indexed fund could result in reduced index cities in the future and that it would tie the hands of future City Councils by limiting their budget options. The amended measure needs a second council approval. A detailed staff report on the fiscal implications of the indexed fund will be available before the council reconsiders the matter this Monday.

La Force also pointed out that the proposed amendment to the measure was available to councilmembers before Monday's meeting in a confidential memo, and was not available to the public prior to the meeting.

"This confidential memorandum is not a public document. So regardless of the merits of this—the problem is, I don't have anything in front of me that's public and that the public has had a chance to look at," La Force said.

Bartke and La Force objected to the fact that there was no staff report concerning the proposed amendment and its possible consequences.

The amendment calls for the maintenance and capital replacement

fund to come out of the general fund and be indexed to the property transfer tax as follows: The fund would be financed each year out of the general fund in an amount equal to the amount by which the revenues from the property transfer tax exceed \$250,000.

The fund would be used for all infrastructure and capital needs—city streets, public buildings, parks and properties—and would remain in place for the duration of the special tax.

Mayor Gina Brusatori said the property transfer tax historically has usually brought in about \$400,000 annually—thus the fund would receive about \$150,000 each year from the tax. The actual amount received would vary each year based on how much the property transfer tax brings in.

The real estate property tax, imposed in 1991, imposes a tax of \$7 per \$1,000 of the sale price of a home. For a home selling at \$300,000, the city receives one-time property transfer tax of \$2,100.

The \$250,000 threshold will be adjusted every five years to keep up with cost-of-living changes, according to the Bay Area Consumer Price Index. The maintenance fund will also receive revenues from sources such as facility and program-user fees and

maintenance costs savings.

Brusatori denied the amendment was a last-minute idea, since it is similar to her proposal to use property transfer taxes to fund infrastructure maintenance and reconstruction that she outlined in the Nov. 12 Journal.

Steve Magary, co-coordinator of the El Cerrito Citizens' Alliance, suggested the indexed fund at Monday's council meeting, and Brusatori pointed out that he also made the proposal to the city's Park and Recreation Commission last week.

"It's not a last-minute proposal," Brusatori insisted. "What we're doing here is we're making a commitment to the voters—long term—that we care not only about the Swin Center, but (also) about a lot of our other capital improvement and maintenance needs."

The City Council will meet in another special session Nov. 29. Council members-elect Kathleen Perka and Janet Abel will be sworn in to consider the matter.

This will ensure that there is enough time for the new council to consider the measure and make further amendments, if necessary, before the Dec. 10 deadline.

The official council reorganization is still scheduled for Dec. 6.

Watch

FROM PAGE A8

nounced plans to form a task force to guide the planning process.

Richmond Swim Center

On Nov. 20, the City of Richmond and the WCCUSD celebrated the grand opening of the new Richmond Swim Center and the new Randolph Pool, named after teacher Kennedy High School teacher.

The beautiful new facility, corner of the Kennedy High School campus at South 45th Avenue and Cutting Boulevard was opened for free for swim for families, and community members will open to the public on a schedule starting Dec. 1.

For more information on the aquatics program at the pool, the schedule of activities, call 510-628-6820. The pool will also be open for use by Kennedy High School other district schools.

It was wonderful to see an excellent example of cooperation between the school district and of Richmond rich tradition for many years. Congratulations to one who worked so hard to happen.

Gym

FROM PAGE A1

Unified School District officials received consistent complaints of a strong chemical smell in the gym.

Some children at the school, which opened in the fall, also complained of headaches and dizziness, but that was not directly tied to time in the gym, Principal Marla Stephenson had said. Areas near the gym had normal test results.

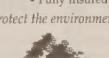
To verify the results of the first air test, the district conducted a series of tests last week. Results came in over the weekend, showing no elevated amounts of methyl bromide or any other toxins.

Michael Noel, the toxicologist hired by the district, said he had no idea why the first test showed methyl bromide while the second round did not. The discrepancy, he said, may have been due to a fluke or testing error.

But Noel will check again. Another series of tests will be conducted next week after district officials heat the gym and run its flooring ventilation system to flush out the air, Mills said.

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TAKE ONE HOME TODAY!

WE'LL PAY THE TAX!
On all 100% top grain leather sectionals!

WE'LL PAY THE TAX!
On approved credit. Min. down required.

3 Day Thanksgiving LEATHER SALE

Everything's on sale factory direct with no middleman mark-up

PLUS:

We'll pay the sales tax!

EXAMPLE: ALL LEATHER sofa....
OUR ALREADY UNBEATABLE FACTORY DIRECT SALE PRICE.....\$888
SALES TAX...INCLUDED!
YOUR COST.....\$888

PLUS:

You don't pay until June 2000
Defer billing for 6 months

Great for families!
All of our durable, easy to clean leather sofas are available as sectional or

ALL STYLES 100% LEATHER

Sale Price \$1088
Complete price we'll pay the tax!
We can add a bed to any sofa or sectional.

Sale Price \$1388
Complete price we'll pay the tax!
100% top grain leather.

Sale Price \$1488
Complete price we'll pay the tax!
100% top grain leather.

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Factory Direct Furniture Showrooms...coast to coast in Calif., Ariz. and N.Y. www.theleatherfactory.com

CONCORD • 1150 Concord Ave (Village Square),
Concord, CA 94520, 925-686-4433
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San Francisco, CA 94109, 415-292-7714
SACRAMENTO • Fair Oaks, 5300 Sunrise, Sacramento, CA 95826, 916-966-7445
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MADE WITH PRIDE IN THE U.S.A. SINCE 1978

*An amount equal to sales tax is deducted from the price of all items in accordance with state and local laws. Offer good on all items.

Real Estate & Home

The Montclarion, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal

November 26, 1999

Section B

Home Trends What could you do with a lot of extra space? [B3]

Weekly Sales The market adds up with these stats [B4]

Open Homes Get a jump on the competition with our handy listings [B5]

Cheaper computers 'remodel' home

By Diane Goldsmith
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

HOME OFFICES have been springing up in every room of the house — even sharing the living room, as families increasingly find togetherness around the computer. Now, with the advent of the affordable PC, there's even more of a push to find accommodations for the technology.

"The \$500-and-under-PC this Christmas will open up the market like never before for less-affluent people who haven't bought one," said Ray Allegreza, editor of Soft Today, the small-office/home-office furniture journal.

Less costly computers — which last year dipped below the \$1,000 barrier — have also been creating more multiple-PC households. The result: sharp demand for home-office pieces that maximize space and are stylish enough to be used in settings that are more home than office.

"When consumers said, 'This salt-gray or putty-looking desk doesn't make it in the great room or the bedroom,'" manufacturers listened, said Allegreza.

"The residential furniture guys are now getting it that you can't drag home stuff that looks like commercial office furniture and the woman of the house says, 'Bring it in!'"

Just prowl the stores and see what manufacturers have produced — everything from quick-fix computer carts to imposing armoires with lots of built-in



THE MALUTINOK FAMILY and a friend take advantage of their family room, which includes a personal computer.

storage and pull-out work surfaces. Among a battery of work centers, some exploit underutilized spaces such as corners, while others close up to hide the work area. Still others may be equipped with casters to be rolled away.

Of course, not all home-office furnishings cohabit. Some have a room of their own. "There's been a huge growth in home-based businesses," said Michael Franks, marketing chief for O'Sullivan, a leader in home-office furniture.

"More than 50 million Americans operate their own business from home, are telecommuters or bring work home at night," he says. And most of them choose

See MORE, Page B14

By Dian Hymer



"One couple was so interested in tying up a hot new listing that they made an over-asking-price offer, without specifying many of the terms of the contract..."

Purchase agreements net security

Making an offer on a home you want to buy is an exciting experience. But no matter how elated you are, focus on protecting yourself in the transaction.

To do this, your offer (also called a purchase agreement) should include all the provisions, terms and conditions that you'll require to buy the property.

One couple was so interested in tying up a hot new listing that they made an over-asking-price offer, without specifying many of the terms of the contract, such as the closing date and the time period for their financing to be approved.

See AGREE, Page B6

TEMPLETON
THE RESIDENTIAL REALTORS

TEMPLETON:

A FAMILIAR NAME
OF LONG
STANDING,
COMMITTED TO
OUR EAST BAY
COMMUNITY

1999 Thanksgiving Greetings From All Of Us!

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ELIZABETH AUGUST
LESLIE AVANT
LESLIE EASTERDAY
RON EGHERMAN
KIM HABU
FAYE KEOGH
JACK MCPHAIL
NANCY NOMAN
SUSIE SCHEVILL
IAN UMEDA

PAUL TEMPLETON
NINA KING LUCE
ANNE VAN DYKE
GINI ERCK
RUTH FRASSETTO
BEBE MCRAE
MARY MONTALI
CAROL LIBBY NEIL
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Finding reason for thanks in a simply soggy situation

One day this week, while chatting merrily, Anet unlocked and swung open the door to our office. Glancing inside, she fell silent and stood still. Only a moment passed but it was long enough for me to realize that something was amiss, and I moved to the door to see what it was.

Water covered the office floor. We looked up to the ceiling but didn't see any holes.

The old Oriental style rug on the floor was awash under two to three inches of water. Cardboard boxes sitting on the carpet were soaked gray. I sprang to rescue them; these boxes held our house flyers, advertising pieces we've had printed over the years for our listings, all neatly organized in file folders. They are precious to me. I use them as samples for prospective clients.

Many boxes, many flyers and folders were soaking wet. I hurried to remove them from the boxes, separating out the dry ones, lifting them to date tops and shelves.

Anet was still looking around for the source of the water. It had rained the day before but this couldn't be rain we were standing in; there was so much of it. Suddenly, at just the same time, we both realized we were hearing water running at a fairly fast clip. Where was it coming from?

Anet went outside, looked around, came back, asked where the water

True Experiences



By Tarpoff and Talbert

turn-off to the house was. She went out again, found and turned it but the sound of water kept on. "Who should I call?" she said. Then she said, "I'm a real estate agent. I should know who to call."

I was still fully engaged in moving wet paper, briefcases, stacks of multiple listing books and newspaper clippings around. It took me a minute to answer: "Shaun."

Shaun is our good friend, a contractor who frequently works for us and seems to know everything there is to know about buildings.

The phones were not wet, and so Anet tried to reach Shaun, but had to leave him a message.

"East Bay MUD" she suggested next and picked up the phone again. "There's a lot of water in our office," she told the person at the water company. And we can hear it running. I

haven't been able to shut off the main. What should I do?"

By now I was moaning about the saturated rug and pad. It is probably ruined. At least the floor itself is concrete. What a sorrow if it had been wood.

My shoes were wet. I lost my footing and fell hard on my knees and elbow. I felt like a fool but I thought I was probably fine.

"Are you okay?" Anet asked. I rolled up my pants, looked at my bloody knees (like a little kid's, I thought) and Anet applied Band-Aids.

"East Bay MUD will send someone within the hour," she said. Then she went back outside to try again to find the source of our problem.

The water company man showed up an hour later. He offered sympathy, looked around and found what had gone wrong. A joint in a copper pipe running along an exterior wall, one used to feed a garden spigot and the sprinkler system, had come unsoldered. The man touched the pipe and it came apart: two pieces now, one continuing to spurt water, the other uselessly disconnected.

The man turned off the water at the main, told us that we should request a credit for the extra water spilled by the break, suggested that we get a plumber, and left.

"I wonder if this is something my insurance might cover," Anet said.

"Maybe I should call and find out." Yes, good news, burst and broken water pipes are covered. Of course, there is a deductible, but within an hour Anet was told, a claims adjuster would call back to tell her what to do next.

While we waited we moved more things. We discussed sweeping the water out of the office or soaking it up somehow but didn't see how to accomplish either. Several large pieces of furniture were sitting on the edges of the carpet, and on top of these were stacked boxes of letterhead and envelopes, reams of paper for the copy and fax machines and such.

We knew that the rug would have to be moved, so we spent our waiting time moving what we could to an adjacent room.

Exactly an hour went by before the claims adjuster called. She was very friendly. She could send out the flood clean-up people - within an hour - but the water to the house would have to be turned back on. Dirty water must be dumped in the sewer line and for that, running water would be needed.

We really did need a plumber. The broken pipe would have to be repaired before we could turn on the water to the house again. But where would we get a plumber quickly? What to do?

Anet gets a certain determination

sometimes, especially when faced with ill-functioning inanimate objects. I've seen it when the computers go screwy. Also with cars that won't start. (She opens the hood and wiggles everything; surprisingly often, this works.)

Once I witnessed Anet's impressive doggedness when her washing machine froze mid-cycle, refusing to agitate any further. She took the agitator apart, then pushed on it hard; it has run well since.

It appears that she simply gets fed up and decides to win, to beat that thing that isn't working. This time her focus was on the broken copper pipe. How could she fix it?

First she measured it. Then she called the wonderful folks at Ellis Hardware in north Oakland and described the situation. She added that she knows nothing about plumbing. "But isn't there something," she inquired, "that I could buy to put over the end of the pipe to seal it off?"

To really fix it, said the Ellis person, it would need to be soldered. But, for right now, to cap off the pipe, yes, Anet would need only a some stock-which-otherwise which they had in stock. "Come and get it," said the Ellis person.

And so we did. We stood at the counter and were shown how the gizmo worked. They made sure we had the appropriate wrenches to attach it, charged us \$4 and wished us

luck. We thanked her, paid her, and the cap, got the water out, called back the insurance. Five and a half hours later, the rescue company people large fans, squeegees, Styrofoam blocks off the floor, and got them to get rid of the rug away.

We were very happy, have gotten it in hours or less. Had it been longer, it would have been much more.

The water was off, the pipe which is in the house. No water reached her house. We don't know what, if anything, happened to the pipe. But we didn't lose any house flyers and books by

We are thankful. Happy giving to you.

Anet Tarpoff and Talbert censed real estate agents to specialize in single family houses. They also offer hourly consulting and coaching. You can be reached by e-mail at patanet@lmi.net or by phone 510-653-2050.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, Nov. 30

Maybeck Foundation lecture.

William Marquand is an architect and executive director of the Bernard Maybeck Foundation. He will give a talk for the Society of Architectural historians on the space, structure and aesthetics of "Heaven and Earth" in Maybeck's masterpiece, the First Church of Christ, Scientist, Berkeley. Free guided tour of the church from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m., and will start his talk at 7:30 p.m. Corner of Dwight Way and Bowditch Street. Call 510-466-5401

Ongoing

UC Botanical Garden. Enjoy a free tour of the UC Botanical Garden at 1:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Special interest classes on a variety of subjects available. The garden is located on Centennial Drive behind the UC-Berkeley campus. Call 510-642-3343

Credit counseling. Consumer Credit Counseling Service, a nonprofit community service organization in Oakland has a series of free workshops. Registration is mandatory. Call (800) 501-5401

Discover Oakland's changing skyline, landmarks, churches and high-rises on one of the free guided walking tours sponsored by the city's Community and Economic Development Agency. Call 510-238-3234.

Sick plant clinic. Join University of California pathologist Dr. Robert Raabe

from 9 a.m. to noon the first Saturday of every month for a free Sick Plant Clinic at the UC Botanical Gardens, 200 Centennial Dr. in Berkeley. Drop in with a piece of a sick or a dying plant and Dr. Raabe will diagnose the problem. Call 510-643-2755.

Zero-down loans: Pizza seminar for East County families, second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 6:30 p.m. at First American Title, 3397 Deer Valley Road, Antioch. Presented by Community Funding. 925-778-4500.

First-time home buyers seminar: Learn how to buy a house in East County for minimal or no money down, classes held regularly at American Title, 1210 Central Blvd., Brentwood. Call 925-516-5795 for schedule.

California Association of Residential Lenders: Group meets the second Thursday of the month, Crow Canyon Country Club in Danville. 925-746-1847. Mortgage Brokers' House at San Francisco Design Center: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays through Jan. 28. Interior design exhibit of three homes. Free. See showrooms. 2 Henry Adams St., S.F. 415-490-5800.

Building Education Center, a non-profit education organization at 812 Page St. in Berkeley, offers the following courses (most are hands-on workshops): 510-525-7610:

■ "The Bungalow: Tradition and Transformation," 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Nov. 21; \$35.

■ "HVAC (heating, ventilation and air-

conditioning) for Beginners," 7-10 p.m. Nov. 30; \$35.

Using government grants and loans to buy a home: Learn how to buy a home for \$2,000 or less down, even with poor credit. Seminars Saturdays in Walnut Creek, Danville and Pleasanton by Re/Max and Golden Valley Mortgages. 925-362-0426.

Credit-report preparation: Learn

how to get your credit ready to apply for a home loan (free credit report).

Free weekly classes at Diablo Funding Group, 587 Ygnacio Valley Road, Walnut Creek 925-945-6112, Ext. 380.

No money down, low closing cost seminar: Free biweekly seminar for first-time and move-up buyers. 14895 E. 14th St., Suite 130, San Leandro. By First Security Loans. 510-614-2433

We accept event announcements

on a space-available basis. Fax list-

ings for this section to 510-339-4066, write 5707 Redwood Road,

Oakland 94619 or e-mail jsnyder1@cctimes.com.

conditioning) for Beginners," 7-10 p.m. Nov. 30; \$35.

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WEEKLY HOME SALES

ALAMEDA

122 Bannister Wy - \$330,000
1601 Broadway #9 - \$205,000
1635 Buena Vista Av - \$265,000
2200 Clinton Av - \$350,000
430 Cola Ballena #39 - \$335,000
585 Crockett Ct - \$708,000
6 Dresden By - \$525,000
1035 Eagle Av - \$235,000
1222 Encinal Av - \$342,000
1264 Hawthorne St - \$358,000
1231 High St - \$27,000
449 Indian By - \$420,000
3549 McSherry Wy - \$360,000
1 Miranda Ct - \$425,000
1528 Pacific Av - \$231,000
160 Purcell Dr - \$405,000
240 Sea Breeze - \$392,500
1026 Taylor Av - \$380,000
2846 Van Buren St - \$610,000
1033 Verdemar Dr - \$226,000
51 Vista Rd - \$427,000
1321 Webster St #D115 - \$173,000

ALBANY

808 Cerrito St - \$210,000
707 Key Route Bl - \$280,000
555 Pierce St #1134 - \$155,000
555 Pierce St - \$134,000
639 San Gabriel Av - \$444,000

BERKELEY

1522 6th St #A - \$275,000
1518 Addison St - \$270,000
1807 Addison St - \$875,000
1359 Ashby Av - \$191,000
1626 Berkeley Wy - \$340,000
1648 Cedar St - \$340,000
2642 College Av - \$420,000
1357 Curtis St - \$260,000
1121 Dwight Wy - \$295,000
2413 Fulton St - \$417,000
2930 Fulton St - \$335,000
2328 Le Conte Av - \$655,000
1036 Mariposa Wy - \$689,000
34 Panorama Wy - \$649,000
2431 Sacramento St - \$324,000
630 Santa Barbara Rd - \$780,000
1635 Scenic Av #4 - \$324,000
1255 Spruce St - \$495,000
1423 Stannage Av - \$266,000
1524 Summit Rd - \$849,000
1401 Walnut St #2C - \$407,000
2632 Warring St #2 - \$208,000

EL CERRITO

520 Lisa Ct - \$162,500
EMERYVILLE
2 Admiral Dr #387 - \$213,000
7 Captain Dr #209 - \$154,000
6363 Christie Av #1206 - \$388,000
3 Commodore Dr #252 - \$139,500
1540 Park Av #103 - \$275,000
3618 Peralta St - \$75,000
KENNEDY
117 Purdie Av - \$1,055,000
31 Rincon Rd - \$360,000
OAKLAND
2008 100th Av - \$132,500
1741 105th Av - \$194,000
2200 13th Av - \$238,500
1021 20th St - \$180,000
1938 25th Av - \$180,000
1733 26th Av - \$91,500
2644 35th Av - \$286,000
714 36th St - \$225,000
2117 42nd Av - \$85,000
2630 55th Av - \$172,000
1029 56th St - \$180,000
1070 61st St - \$115,000
1969 62nd Av - \$110,000
2009 64th Av - \$81,500
1229 71st Av - \$96,000
2934 73rd Av - \$97,000
1651 74th Av - \$147,500
2877 7th St - \$235,000
1447 83rd Av - \$105,000
959 86th Av - \$95,000
2314 90th Av - \$102,000
1342 93rd Av - \$98,000
1542 96th Av - \$90,000
10011 A St - \$125,000
5612 Adeline St - \$89,000
1963 Arrowhead Dr - \$350,000

EL SOBRANTE

507 Chabre Ct - \$145,000
4346 Harmon Rd - \$176,500
1137 Kelvin Rd - \$250,000

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Commercial Lofts from \$310,000
Dramatic Penthouse Lofts from
\$435,000

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THREE BRIDGE VIEW! \$399,000.

Very spacious and beautiful custom built home.
3br/2ba, living room w/fireplace, separate formal dining
room and breakfast room.

Terri Huang 527-9111, 559-2909

WILDCAT CANYON RETREAT \$385,000.

Fabulous 3 br/2ba home with too many great features to list.
So, come and see for yourselves! Open Sun. 2-4. 5994

McBryde, Richmond View

Merrilyn Rhodes 527-9111, 559-2928

GREAT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY...\$299,000.

This 6 unit apartment building is located near the San Pablo
Casino and shops. Each unit comprises 2 br/1ba + a parking
space.

Terri Huang 527-9111, 559-2909

RARE...LARGE, LOVELY MacGREGOR!...\$345,000.

Spacious & sunny split level in Albany! Three bedrooms, one and a
half baths, living room with fireplace, formal dining room. Gleaming
hardwood floors. Immaculate, move-in condition. Large yard!

David Ratoosh (510) 527-2700 x44

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7502 FAIRMOUNT AVE., EL CERRITO • 527-9111

When it's your move...

On the average

ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 22
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$173,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$708,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$350,000
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$362,705

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$134,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$444,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$155,000
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$244,600

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 22
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$191,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$875,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$340,000
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$435,545

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 10
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$189,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$422,500
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$280,000

FREMONT

TOTAL SALES: 22
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$191,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$875,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$340,000
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$435,545

KENSINGTON

TOTAL SALES: 11
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$200,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$259,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$223,500
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$227,455

OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 97
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$78,000
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$910,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$190,000
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$228,134

SAN LORENZO

TOTAL SALES: 32
LOWEST AMOUNT: \$87,500
HIGHEST AMOUNT: \$362,000
MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$209,000
AVERAGE AMOUNT: \$213,375

SAN MATEO

TOTAL SALES: 32
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MEDIAN AMOUNT: \$209,000
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SAN RAMON

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Agree

FROM PAGE B1

The buyers knew that the sellers wanted to exclude their master bedroom drapes from the sale, but the buyers did not address this issue in the contract. They hoped that the sellers would change their minds and let the drapes stay with the house.

Some buyers are annoyed at having to deal with complicated contractual issues, without first knowing whether the sellers will accept their price. They figure that if the price is right, the rest will follow.

The problem with this approach is that you may not be dealing with a cooperative party on the other side. By accepting your price, the seller may feel that he's entitled to call the shots when it comes to ironing out the remaining terms and conditions of the contract.

Rather than build uncertainty into the contract, it's better to agree on as many contract terms as possible at the beginning of the transaction.

clude the following:

- Identification of the property and the buyers and sellers
- Purchase price and amount of the good faith deposit (also call the earnest money deposit)
- Financing terms, including the maximum interest rate and points the buyers will accept, and the time period for the buyers to obtain their financing commitment
- Prorations such as for property taxes and rents (if applicable)
- Closing and possession dates; a provision for the transfer of clear title from the sellers to the buyers
- Attached and personal property that are included and excluded
- Disclosures and compliance

Your purchase contract should in-

"Rather than build uncertainty into the contract, it's better to agree on as many contract terms as possible at the beginning of the transaction."

obligations that are required by law; inspection contingencies (home, termite, roof, drainage, etc.)

■ Final walk-through provision; additional terms and conditions (such as the sale of another property, seller warranties, rights of tenants in possession, a home warranty plan, risk of loss, condition of the property)

- Methods for resolving dispute
- Confirmation of the agency relationship where required by law
- How closing costs will be shared
- Acceptable period for the sellers' response to your offer.

■ If your purchase is contingent on an event happening that is not covered in the above list, you should include it in your purchase agreement to protect yourself.

You may be refinancing another property to accumulate the down payment needed to close on the new house. Unless the refinance is complete and you have the cash in hand, you should make the successful completion of the refinance a contingency of your contract.

If your refinance doesn't come through, you would probably have a legitimate way out of the contract.

To keep both buyers and sellers working on the same wave length, compile a list of all the contract con-

tingencies and their due dates. Make sure that all parties to the contract have copies of the timeline. And confirm that there aren't any disputes about critical dates.

Dian Hymer is a top-producing broker associate with Coldwell Banker in the Montclair/Piedmont office and author of "Buying and

Selling a Home in Co. Starting Out, The Complete Buyer's Guide," both from Chronicle Books. Order online.

Serving: Alameda and Contra Costa Counties



Diane Britto-Realtor / Peter Fletcher-Real Estate Broker

Heritage  Better Homes and Gardens
925.975.4331 / 510.521.1177

ALAMEDA

LAFAYETTE

DANVILLE

REAL ESTATE RESOURCES

Natural products

■ E-Spec. 4723 Tidewater Ave., Suite 1, Oakland. 510-536-2600. Manufacturers representative for environmental architectural finish and landscape products

■ Non-Toxic Hot Line. 3441 Golden Rain, #3, Walnut Creek. 925-472-8868. Web site is www.non-toxic.com. Low toxic sealants and insulation, air and water purifiers, mail order.

■ Real Goods Trading Corp. 1324 10th St., Berkeley. 510-558-0700. Solar-powered products, air and water filters, environmental home books, ecological bedding, lighting products, and more. Web site: www.realgoods.com. Their nearby outlet store carries discontinued items. Catalog sales also, 800-762-7325.

Consultants, testing services

■ American Synergy Corp. 28436 Satellite St., Hayward. 800-439-9610. Testing for energy efficiency. Full-service energy management company for residential homes. Free energy audit. Web site: www.americansynergy.com.

■ Berkeley Analytical Associates Laboratory, Richmond. 510-236-2325. Testing of carpet and upholstery emissions and indoor air quality analysis.

■ David Kibbey, Environmental Building Consultant. 1618 Parker St., Berkeley. 510-841-1039. Consultations regarding building materials and systems for environmentally-conscious consumers.

Compiled by staff

BAY AREA mortgage RATES

FINANCIAL INSTITUTION	30-YEAR FIXED RATE+POINTS(APR)	1-YEAR ARM RATE+POINTS(APR)	3-YEAR ARM RATE+POINTS(APR)	7-YEAR ARM RATE+POINTS(APR)	ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS
Aston Financial Group 925-934-5323	7.25+2(7.44)	NQ	NQ	NQ	Save thousands of dollars with our discounted red
California Home Loans 800-952-8888	7.75+0(7.79)	7.375+0(7.39)	7.25+0(7.27)	7.625+0(7.66)	Over 50,000 loan options: Jumbo ARMs: 3/1 7.05-7.07 5/1 7.25-7.27; 1mo COFI 5.95+0(6.00), 5% down, no PMI
CA DRE Lic#01096460	7.375+1.5(7.55)	7+1.5(7.17)	6.5+1.5(6.66)	7.125+1.5(7.45)	Purchase/refinance, no points/no prepay. Get cash in 1
CMG Mortgage, Inc. 800-788-6522	7.25+1.5(7.46)	5.875+0(6.59)	6.875+1(7.29)	7.25+1.5(7.27)	Open Saturday and Sunday. Low-doc and quick qualify programs. Web: www.SteveCarlin.com Email: steve@stevecarlin.com
CA DRE 01170028	7.125+2(7.36)	6.25+1(6.99)	6.625+1.5(7.19)	7+2(7.19)	
7+2.5(7.26)	3.5+1(6.88)	6.375+2(7.09)	6.875+2.5(7.12)		
Commonwealth United Mortgage 800-640-2577	7.75+0	NQ	NQ	NQ	Conforming loan amounts to \$250K. 100% financing. Crappy credit OK. One-time close construction. VA/FHA, CHFA, PERS, CAL VET
7.5+1	7.375+2				
Discovery Mortgage Co. 510-539-7245	7.625+0	5.625+0	NQ	NQ	Jumbos: 5/1 ARM 7+0; 7/1 7.375+0 or 6.75+1.25-825450 minimum loan amount. VA, FHA, CHFA, CAL VET, 5pm/weekends, 510-539-7245. Se habla Espanol. 40 years experience. All types
7.25+1.25	7+2.375				
Downey Savings & Loan 800-780-6614	7.25+1.875(7.50)	NQ	NQ	NQ	Jumbo: 30yr 7.5+2(7.73); 15yr 7.125+2.125(7.5). Direct lender, 40 years experience. Fixed and ARM mortgages.
Interloan.com 800-641-7556	7.5+8.875(7.62)	6.25+8.875(8.29)	7+6.25(8.10)	7.5+2.75(8.23)	America's home finance network. www.interloan.com
J&J Mortgage Corporation 925-254-1271	7.5+1(7.62)	6.25+1(6.36)	6.875+1(6.99)	7.25+1(7.37)	FHA/VA specialists. Se habla Espanol. Bankers since 1949. FHA 30yr ARM. Lock 60 days, caps 1% & 5%.
Mortgage Market 800-837-LOAN	7.625+0	5.625+0(7.75)	7+0(7.76)	7.5+0(7.75)	Credit problems, bankrupt, difficult loans our specialty!! government loans. 100% loans, credit lines, construction, 20 years of service. Appointments anytime! 1-800-837-LOAN
U.S. Mortgage Center 1-800-867-9813	7.375+0(7.54)	6.25+0(8.21)	7.25+0(8.14)	7.375+0(7.94)	Open Saturday and Sunday. FHA/VA, conventional. Debt consolidation. First-time buyers special. Open Thanksgiving weekend.

Information is current as of November 23, 1999. For information on specific mortgage programs, call the lender. Rates, points and programs are subject to change and cannot be guaranteed. Points include discount and origination fees. Most quotes are for 30-day lock-ins, unless otherwise stated. Rates quoted are based on loan amounts of \$125,000. Maximum conventional loan amount \$240,000; jumbo loans are \$300,000. Rates are based on a 7.0% rate reflecting the cost of a mortgage at 4 year term. This rate is likely to be higher than the stated rate or advertised rate on the mortgage, but reflects account points and other credit costs. The APR allows homebuyers to compare different types of mortgages based on the annual cost for each loan. ARM-adjustable rate mortgage LTV-loan to value. MI-mortgage insurance NA-not available. NO-rate not quoted. Lenders, to be listed in this paid column, call 1-800-CNS-8525. To calculate your exact mortgage payments using our electronic payment calculator and for extensive mortgage, real estate, and consumer financial information, including tips and definitions of terms, please visit our website at www.cnsweb.com. Copyright 1999 Consumer News Systems

CONTRIBUTOR
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PAYMENT CALCULATOR
• LOCAL MORTGAGE RATES
• HOME FINANCING OPTIONS
• MORTGAGE TERMINOLOGY

To calculate your exact mortgage payments using our electronic payment calculator and definitions of terms, please visit our website at www.cnsweb.com



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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents, or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Your
complete
Real Estate
Resource



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Berkeley, Ca
94707

510.849.9990
redoakrealty.com



DROP BY AND SAY HELLO!

Warwick May
Brenda Macauley
Julie Cuellas
Susan Reese
Lizabeth Hibbard
Laurie Capitelli, mgr.

Red Oak Realty is excited to be a part of the Elmwood-Rockridge neighborhood. We have served the East Bay for the past 25 years with knowledge, integrity, and professionalism. Call us when you have ANY real estate needs...not just when you are buying or selling.

Visit our latest Red Oak Gallery show featuring local artist Sonya Gill (through late January).

You're driving among
neighbors.

Please drive
neighborly.

Happy Thanksgiving
from Hills Newspapers

BUSD TIDINGS

BY ANA LUISA QUIÑONEZ

Submit **BUSD** information or photographs to the Berkeley Voice by 5 p.m. Friday for publication in the following week's newspaper. Phone (510) 339-4053, fax (510) 339-4066, or preferably, e-mail: aqunonez@ctimes.com

BERKELEY PTA COUNCIL: www.bpta.simplenet.com
BHS PTSA NEWSLETTER: www.bhs.berkeley.k12.ca.us
BUSD ON THE WEB: www.berkeley.k12.ca.us
SUBSCRIBE TO BHS EMAIL-TREE: <bhs@idom.com>

BUSD ADMINISTRATION

644-6504

1999-2000 SCHOOL VISITATION HOURS
 The **BUSD** welcomes families new to the district for visits to all its elementary schools on Tuesday and Thursday morning through Dec. 2 and from Jan. 11 to March 3. Enrollment for Fall 2000 begins in February. When you visit a school, please report first to the front desk to receive any instruction or information specific to the school. Call ahead to be sure the class you want to visit is not on a special trip.

BOAR
 Berkeley Arts Magnet 9:15-11:30
 HOURS PRINCIPAL PHONE
 8:45-11:00 Lorna Skantz-Neil 644-6225
 9:15-11:30 Barbara Penny James 644-6260
 9:15-11:30 Rebecca Wheat 644-5812
 9:15-11:30 Jason Lustig 644-8110
 8:45-11:00 Laura Monroe 644-6890
 8:45-11:00 Susan McArdle 644-6299
 9:15-11:30 Nancy Waters 644-6410
 8:45-11:00 Patricia Sudder 644-6290
 8:45-11:00 Cheryl Chin 644-6313
 8:45-11:00 Kathleen Lewis 644-6300
 8:45-11:00 Kevin Wooldridge 644-6368
 8:45-11:00 Rita Kimball 644-6310

JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

644-6298

CHICKADEE CLUB
 Chickadee Club activities have begun. This week and next, children will be taking short walks around the school with science resource teacher John Poole. Learn to recognize the birds that live nearby. They have already seen a total of seven species within a block of the school. There are two levels of Chickadee Club membership: (1) Chickadee - child draws, colors and labels three wild birds that live in Berkeley; (2) Egret - child draws, colors and labels five wild birds, and writes research on one bird. Much of this work can be done in class; however, children can work at home as well.

The Chickadee Club engages in several activities out of school: Egret Level 4th and 5th graders are invited to participate in the Audubon Christmas Bird Count, on this year's December 19. All members are invited to join Mr. Poole or another docent for short birdwalks held in the Berkeley area during the winter and spring. Egret Level birders (there may be a grade limitation) are invited to an overnight birding trip at Tilden Park in the spring.

BERKELEY PTA COUNCIL

BERKELEY KIDS READ/NIGHT
 Berkeley PTA Council "Cooperative Parent Education Project" presents Berkeley Kids Read/Night on Thursday, Dec. 2, from 7 to 9 p.m., come join in a fun, free evening and learn skills that can help your child become a better reader. All families welcome. Enjoy free refreshments, door prizes and books, fun reading activities and more. Brought to you by CPEP, the Berkeley PTA Council, "Berkeley Kids Read/Night" Campaign, the **BUSD**, League of Women Voters, Berkeley Alliance, Berkeley School Volunteers, Berkeley Youth Alternatives, Berkeley Public Library, In Duci Jubilo, and many more community and youth organizations.

CRAGMONT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

644-8811

SHOPPING PROCEES BENEFIT STUDENTS
 A new local shop for children, Cotton Kids, will give Cragmont 15% of all shopping purchases made from Dec. 1 through 15. Cotton Kids sells comfortable clothing made by local mom's. Located at 2112B Vine Street, Berkeley, they are open daily, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Schoolpop.com and support Cragmont. Check out www.schoolpop.com for your Internet shopping and money for Cragmont at no extra cost to you. Just go to www.schoolpop.com, enter Cragmont, Berkeley, CA and start shopping in Schoolpop's mall of over 100 retailers, such as Amazon, Lands End, Toys and OfficeMax. Once you designate Cragmont and make a purchase, the retailer rebates the school up to 20% of the purchase price. Cragmont gets a penny each time you use the Snap.com search engine from Schoolpop's web page. There's a special promotion on now: For every email you send from your first purchase to cashback@schoolpop.com and Cragmont gets an extra \$10. Offer is for the first 100,000 purchases before Dec. 31, 1999. Spread the word to friends and family nationwide too. Contact Schoolpop liaison, Susan Chan at 843-3482 or csanc@2xtreme.net with questions.

BERKELEY HIGH SCHOOL

644-6121

SEEKING PARENTS' TIPS AND QUESTIONS ABOUT COLLEGE
 A parent subcommittee of BSEP is putting together a BHS Parents' Handbook of College Information. A preliminary version will be readily available at sites in Berkeley within the next few weeks. In addition to all the basic information about pathways to college, course requirements, required tests, requirements for the UC and Cal State systems, and important telephone numbers and Web addresses, the handbook will incorporate the expertise of BHS parents who already have children in college and those going through the process now in two special sections in the handbook: (1) Tips from Parents on Navigating the College Process, and (2) Answers to Frequently Asked Questions. You can help by contributing information either of these two areas. No names will be used; the parent subcommittee will use information for clarity and organization.

The subcommittee is also soliciting Questions that one would like answered about any aspect of the college process. During this school year, the subcommittee will include answers to Frequently Asked Questions in upcoming PTSA newsletters. Please send tips or questions by Dec. 1, to Frances Cohen fcohen@iss.ucsf.edu or fax at 526-6411. Questions about this project, call 526-

BERKELEY ADULT SCHOOL

644-6784

FREE PARENTING TEENS CLASSES
 Parenting is one of the most challenging tasks in life. It is filled with uncertainty, worry, and frustration as well as concern, love, and the desire to make the right decisions for kids. Berkeley Adult School is offering six Thursday night sessions to parents of teens in Berkeley to talk about specific problem areas that parents deal with: drug and alcohol abuse, communication, sex, depression, violence and anger management. Parents can choose to come to any or all sessions. There is no fee. The sessions will start on Thursday, Dec. 2, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Berkeley Adult School, 1222 University Avenue, Room 103. These will be informal discussion groups. Facilitator Bonnie Baldwin, will also bring some material to present on the topic of that night. There will be hot beverages and refreshments served. Bonnie Baldwin is a Marriage and Family Therapist (Lic. #MFC 35751) who has been working with teens and their parents for seven years. For more information, call (510) 472-9782 or e-mail teenbeat@jones.com.

MEETINGS

BERKELEY HIGH SCHOOL, 2246 Milvia St., 644-4500
 - Fall Drama Performance, Friday & Saturday, Dec. 3-4, 8 p.m., Little Theatre
 - SAT & II, & Saturday, Dec. 4
 - Concert Chorale, Thursday, Dec. 14, St. John's, 7:30 p.m.
 - African Dance, Thursday, Dec. 16, Community Theater, 7:30 p.m.
 - Orchestra Performance, Friday, Dec. 17, Little Theater, 7:30 p.m.

GRAGMONT, 830 Regal Road, 644-8811
 - Winter Fair, Night, Dec. 15

KING, 1781 Rose St., 644-6098
 - School Advisory Council, Tuesday, Nov. 30, 9 a.m.

PTA, Thursday, Dec. 2, 7:30 p.m. Learn more about adolescent literature from Berkeley librarians Elizabeth Overmyer and Marge Sussman, and local bookstores Amy Thomas from Pegasus and Pendragon Book Stores.

- Winter Vaccinations for 6th graders
 - Winter Concert, Tuesday, Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m., auditorium

MALCOLM X, 1731 Prince St., 644-6313
 - Winter Concert, Thursday, Dec. 9, 7 p.m. Auditorium. Performance will include 3rd Grade Rhythm Ensemble, 5th grade Orchestra, Chorus and Band and the Hills Project Jazz Band.

- Family Heritage Potluck, Wednesday, Dec. 15, 6 p.m. Auditorium. Book fair, MX sweatshirts and t-shirt sales, and performance by students.

LOOKING AHEAD - NO SCHOOL
 Friday, November 26 - Thanksgiving Day Holiday (K-12)
 Monday, Dec. 20 through Friday, Dec. 31 - Winter Recess (K-12)

Classifieds

The Largest in the East Bay

2 Announcements

NOW OPEN The Tupperware Store, In East County Mall Down Sweet Dreams Alley

4A Found

CAT, black, long hair male, neutered. Lost, Fair Oaks Rd., Danville, (925) 837-7291

CAT, black, shy & scared, 11/2, Alcatraz & Benvenue, Danville, (925) 837-7291

CHOW, Red, Indian Rd., La Honda, (925) 836-3765

DOG, German Shepherd, 10 mo., found 11/19, Stonegate Dr., Danville, (925) 244-3544

DOG, Large Black, male, red, shock collar, on Devon in P.H. (925) 944-0901

DOGMIX, 1 yr. old, male, not neutered, reddish brown fluffy ears (925) 825-9880

GERMAN, Shepherd, found 11/19, 10 mo., male, red, (925) 944-0901

LABRADOR, black, male, under 1 yr., red collar, found in La Honda, (925) 283-3399

LABRADOR, young male, (916) 510-7744

LANCASHIRE, Heeler or Blue Heeler, (925) 837-7291

PIRTBULL, nice, dark, brown male, El Sobrante, 11/22/99

TABBY KITTEN, dark, brown, male, 11/21, Diebel Rd., Danville, (925) 837-7291

WARM & CARING

4B Lost

203 Central Contra Costa County Child Care

ARE YOU looking for that upbeat fun loving personal child care? No questions! No charges! No commitments! No fees! No strings attached! Call 1-800-201-1141

204 East Contra Costa County Child Care

AGES 2-4, open Mon-Fri 7:30-3:30

OPENINGS for ages 6mo-5 yrs, 6am-6pm, Deerly, (925) 431-5970

THE TOT STOP DAYCARE

2 mos-3 yrs, 6am-6pm, 7:30-4:30, (925) 430-1981

205 San Ramon Valley/Southern Alameda County Child Care

4 SEASONS DAYCARE 0-12 Alamo, (925) 855-8288

206 Alameda County Child Care

HOT breakfast, lunch & snacks, Gd clean, whole-
 some care. All major cultures
 welcome. Dinner, (925) 532-5970

207 West Contra Costa County Child Care

QUALITY childcare 24 hr Mon-Sat. Pre-school/mealtime care, (925) 430-6640

250 Help Wanted

ACCOUNTANT, Dynamc software, part-time, assignment Non-Profit, experience, prior Fax resume 415-454-7785

250 Help Wanted

ACCOUNTANT, Entry-level staff accountant for its Walnut Creek Region office. The candidate must have BABA in accounting and a minimum of 3 years of experience in financial accounting. Computer skills in Microsoft Office and Platinum preferred. We seek a team-oriented, self-starter with good organizational, communication, and interpersonal skills. We offer a benefits package. Please send resume and a cover letter to: 1601 North Ctr. Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94598

250 Help Wanted

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Classifieds

Montclarion, Piedmonter, Berkeley Voice, The Journal, Alameda Journal, Family Fair

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major credit cards
accepted

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Classified Deadlines
Ad Starting:

Tuesday

Family Fair

Open Home Guide

Friday

 *Cancellations same as deadlines
(fax 748-1665)

Fax copy deadline 1 hour prior to publication

Quickly locate the category you need with this handy Classified guide
ANNOUNCEMENTS

1-8

INSTRUCTION

200-203

EMPLOYMENT

249-255

PETS & SERVICES

300-303

MERCHANDISE

400-420

FINANCIAL

500-505

HOME & BUSINESS SERVICES

550-590

RENTALS

600-617

REAL ESTATE

700-775


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NURSE
Growing managed care company seeks motivated RNs with U/M to manage our exper who can work part-time.

UM COORDINATOR
Will coordinate utilization management of hospitalized patients & outpatient referals. Must be able to work with multiple discipline team members including MDs & other health care providers. Prior U/M experience required.

UM MANAGER

Will provide clinical & administrative oversight & supervision to health services management, utilization management & case management. RN required. B.S. in Nursing or equivalent. Current California license B.S. in Nursing or other health related field preferred. 2 years experience in U/M, discharge planning, case management, patient advocacy, or other clinical programs, e.g., HMO, Medical Group, IPA, clinic, physician office, etc.

Fax resume & salary history to 510/446-7477, or mail to NAMM, Attn: MMT, 2000 Powell St., #500, Emeryville, CA 94608.

NURSE/LVN/MGR in busy pediatric office in Berkeley. 2 yrs. min. experience. Fax resume to: (510) 548-3109.

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Mental Health Psychiatric Nurse
You have a tough enough job - lower your stress level. Get out of the office race and come to where the mountains meet the desert and the air is unbelievably clear. We have Mental Health Psychiatric Nurse open salary \$36,012-\$43,428 annual. Bachelor's degree required. Must have one year of experience in U/M, discharge planning, case management, patient advocacy, or other clinical programs, e.g., HMO, Medical Group, IPA, clinic, physician office, etc.

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We are starting a Training Class for Licensed Nursing Assistants. Earn extra money for Christmas. We will provide paid orientation, the plan, the class. Earn while you learn. Start your nursing career. Apply to Elm Manor 1310 Creekside Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94565. Call 925-576-1979 or fax resume to 925-576-1979. Join our Team!

NURSE
Need a change?
Would like to work that will appreciate you! Pt Night Shift charge nurse needed for small office. Shift work, ratio 1:1. Call Dorothy @ Lafayette Condominium Hospital 223/294-1424.

Registered Nurse
Contra Costa Regional Medical Center, a new state-of-the-art hospital located in Martinez, has openings for experienced, licensed registered nurses. RNs per diem, short hours, or permanent positions. To apply contact Health Services Department Personnel, 2350 12th Street, Site 120, Martinez, 925-335-8850 for application & supplemental questionnaire.

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F/T, P/T, On-call position
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F/T, P/T, On-call position
Great Benefits
Low Nurse/Patient Ratio
Plus Bonuses
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ACUTE SERVICES
NOW HIRING
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NURSE - LVN
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sub-acute rehab facility
Seeks individuals committed to excellence. TLO exp. preferred. RN per diem, short hours, or permanent positions. To apply contact Health Services Department Personnel, 2350 12th Street, Site 120, Martinez, 925-335-8850 for application & supplemental questionnaire.

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Pilot program helps poor land American Dream: home owner

Federal Home Loan Bank starts assistance program for low-income buyers

By Psyche Pascual
CONTRA COSTA NEWSPAPERS

The Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco has set aside \$500,000 for a pilot program that will boost the funds low-income buyers set aside to buy a house, officials announced last Thursday.

Starting in mid-January, the bank will contribute \$3 for every \$1 a con-

sumer saves — or up to \$10,000 — in what it calls an Individual Development and Empowerment Account.

Consumers can open accounts with the help of nonprofit housing groups and participating lenders in Arizona, California and Nevada. If the program goes well, the bank may raise the yearly amount to \$1.5 million.

"We hope to have more focus to the program and a little bit more money," said Jim Yacenda, vice president and community investment officer for the bank.

Co-owned by many of the credit unions and banks who finance home

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call the East Bay Asian Local Development Corp., Oakland.

- Pam Salsedo, 510-287-5353 x726,
- George Loew 510-287-5353 x436

loans in the Bay Area, the Federal Home Loan Bank last year doled out \$26 million for other affordable housing programs.

It also financed about 40 percent of home loans member institutions issued in Alameda County, for example, including those issued by

Kaiper Federal Credit Union, which serves workers employed by Kaiser Permanente hospitals, and Washington Mutual. Data for Contra Costa County were not available.

In the high-priced Bay Area, such savings accounts can make a difference in a consumer's ability to buy

a house and qualify for certain loans, Yacenda said.

Consumers are eligible if they make less than 80 percent of the area's median income. A consumer who saves only \$1,000 of his or her own money, for example, will get \$3,000 in extra funds to contribute for a down payment or closing costs for a house. Part of the program involves teaching participants economic skills, he said.

The program is modeled after individual development accounts the Oakland-based East Bay Asian Local Development Corp., a nonprofit

affordable housing agency to help local residents buy a house or save for a

One of the group's members, Adeeba Deterville, 37, for a house almost 10 years ago when she moved to San Diego to pursue a business program. During counseling about buying a home, Deterville decided to buy a house

Counselors help clean up her credit, payment assistance

More

FROM PAGE B1

largely single-task or "dedicated" rooms in which to do their work, according to Wirthlin Worldwide, a Virginia-based opinion-research firm.

But for those who are fitting a home office into a bedroom, playroom or guest room, it's got to be good news that manufacturers are making pieces that can work with their surroundings.

Just look at Sauder's new North Pointe Collection, which includes a computer work center in the same casual adaptation of the Arts and Crafts style as an entertainment center in the line.

"Only a couple of our office groupings are stand-alone groupings," said marketing director Susan Dountas. "The others will match something, so you can do a whole room or a whole house."

Modularity is another trend for the furniture. "People may want to start small and put basic computer equipment on it," said Dountas. "As they add scanners or a printer, they'll need more surface." Modular furniture can offer flexibility for the future.

You'll see modular options and hear more about style when you visit your local Staples. At the store in Philadelphia, the top-selling piece is Dorel's Corner Workcenter, which features a contemporary look and lots of storage.

"A lot of college kids are buying this," said Carlos Astacio, who manages furniture there. "They like the black finish against the oak, and they really love the price," he said, referring to the \$149.99 tag. "I sell about eight to 10 of these a week."

So how has the furniture changed in recent years?

"It's sturdier, more modern, and there's more variety," said Stan Kulikowski, a Staples district manager

visiting the store on his rounds. "Now, you can special-order finishes and fabrics."

"It's easier to assemble," added Astacio. "The pieces are predrilled and lettered" for easy coordination.

And for those who aren't adept with a power drill and a hammer, Staples will recommend a firm to help.

Ready to go

An eye for hard-working design is also apparent at Ikea, where virtually all the home-office furniture is ready-to-assemble. Browse the catalog and you'll notice an emphasis on sleek, clean lines that work in a variety of settings.

Two full pages of the current catalog offer solutions to awkward spaces. A crescent-shaped desk is touted as a perfect fit in a corner; another setup capitalizes on space under a staircase. Farther along in the catalog, a \$99 workstation is pictured that folds up into a box and rolls

away on casters.

Behind these pieces are consumer input and extensive product development, says Tracey Kelly, who is in charge of home-office furniture for the company's North American operation.

"So the chairs don't look as if you're in your living room and they were dropped in from outer space."

But not all customers find what they like in stores, even in ones that carry pricier furniture. In those cases, an interior designer may be able to generate more options.

When she wanted to fit an office into a contemporary bedroom with lots of custom work, Marcy Kaiser turned to Lori Gayman, owner of Manayunk's Cosmopolitan Home store.

Why put her office in the bedroom?

"Everyone had claimed everything else in the house," Kaiser explained. She and her husband, Bill, and their three children, ages 11, 5, and 3

months, share a house in Maple Glen.

Plenty of files

What Kaiser needed was room to organize family records as well as her volunteer work for Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

The desk of her dreams awaited on the cover of Architectural Digest. "I said, 'I want this desk,'" she told Gayman. "She said, 'Do you know it probably costs \$7,000'?"

"I said, 'I don't want this desk.'"

But Gayman found a local craftsman to reproduce the piece, which resembles stacked milk crates done in maple wood, for a fraction of the cost.

Now, Kaiser says of her office retreat: "It's a very nice place to sit for five whole seconds before someone finds me."

Gayman, who has created home offices in many different rooms, notes that lately she's gotten several requests to create a space for the computer where the entire family can congregate.

"We're embarking on a new office with a large desk. We could put a family of four in there and still have room to play games together. The last time we had a family in there, the home office was a bit cramped."

Ikea has picked up on the trend, featuring a generous seat-and-a-half along a sofa which sits in front of her laptop, is a showpiece of her own little work while her children play games," said Peggy.

All in the family

It's a setup not unique to the Bryn Mawr, Pa., home of Peggy Malinowski, whose family room, an attachment to the workstation shares space in the entertainment center and is the least bit out of place.

"The best part is it's accessible to all five of us," says point my husband may be at his desk, but my children are playing games," said Peggy.

Comfort

FROM PAGE B3

site with good drainage. This will help keep contents dry by allowing for a better seal at the roof and around doors.

If the shed you buy does not come with a floor, your best bet is to pour a concrete slab. If concrete is a little too permanent for you,

sheet plastic with pea gravel or plywood on pressure-treated sleepers are reasonable alternatives.

Pittsburgh contractors Morris and James O. Carey can be heard Saturday mornings on KSFO 560 AM. Write the Carey Brothers, c/o the Associated Press, 50 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10020-1666, or e-mail them at careybro@onthehouse.com. Their Web site is at www.onthehouse.com.

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SPORTS

VJ

Friday, November 26, 1999

Section C

Volleyball Albany sweeps Piedmont to win NCS crown [C2]

Arts Disturbing Irish 'Queen' a royal success [C3]

Vasquez qualifies for state meet

St. Mary's High sophomore finishes second in race

By Peter Mentor

Rudy Vasquez showed just how strong he and his league are when he finished second at the North Coast Section Meet of Champions at Hayward High last Saturday.

The St. Mary's High School sophomore cruised over the 3.1-mile Hayward High course in 16 minutes, 29 seconds in the NCS Division 4 race to qualify for the CIF State Meet this Saturday at Woodward Park in Fresno.

The only other runner fast than Vasquez in the division was Piedmont High junior Tom Phelps, a fellow Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League runner who traveled the rolling course in 16:09.

Piedmont, the defending champions in that division, ended up winning the meet with 60 points. Dublin placed second with 69 points and both teams advance to the state meet.

Vasquez was the top state qualifier not on a winning team. He easily beat out third-place Marcos Gomez (16:34) and pre-race favorite Chris Lanese (16:40), who placed fourth.

In fact, the North Coast program barely mentioned either Phelps or Vasquez, showing just how much weight goes to the Alameda Contra Costa Ath-

See VASQUEZ, Page C2



ST. MARY'S BRIDGET DUFFY leads Alhambra's Jessica Neu during the Meet of Champions at Hayward High. Duffy and her team won the race.

Panthers stun Gauchos

EC's dream season ends in playoffs

By Scott Strain

EL CERRITO — The St. Mary's football team had something to prove and boy, did the Panthers prove it.

As everybody in the East Bay now knows, the unseeded Panther shocked No. 1 seed El Cerrito 13-6 last Friday night in the North Coast Section 2A Championships. St. Mary's (7-4) now goes to play No. 2 De Anza (9-2) in El Sobrante tonight at 7.

St. Mary's actually started the same way it did against El Cerrito when the two teams played a few weeks ago. Trestin George scored on a 49-yard run with just 1:14 gone in the game. Pat Barry kicked the extra point, and it was 7-0.

The last time the two teams met, St. Mary's scored first on a Pat Barry field goal, but the Panthers gave up 34 points and lost 34-9.

But in this game, the first time the Gauchos had the ball, they drove to the Panthers' 6-yard line where quarterback Joe McBride missed on a fourth-down pass to Jason Washington in the end zone. St. Mary's couldn't move and punted to its own 31. Certainly it was time for the Gauchos to put St. Mary's in its place.

McBride drove his team down to the 15, but on fourth-and-7, but he overthrew Washington in the end zone and the Panthers took over on downs.

It was apparent right then and there that this was a different game, and if the Gauchos were going to win it, someone would have to really step up because the team was playing in a daze. In the end, no one did.

Three things doomed El Cerrito in this game — the St. Mary's defense, the lack of a kicking game, and tepid support from the fans on the Gaucho's home field.

St. Mary's was able to befuddle McBride with stunts and coverages and held him to just 10 completions in 24 attempts for 11 yards. The Panthers also intercepted him three times, two of them in crucial situations.



ST. MARY'S TRESTIN GEORGE (2) tries to elude El Cerrito's Laronn Gray in a first-round playoff game Friday. George scored a touchdown in the Panthers' 13-6 win at El Cerrito.

El Cerrito running back David Rose ran for 113 yards, but the Panthers were able to jam Okoro Onyike and allow him only 46 yards. Onyike's up-field thrusts absolutely devastated the Panthers in the first game.

See PANTHERS, Page C2

Three things doomed El Cerrito in this game: the St. Mary's defense, the lack of a kicking game, and tepid support from the fans on the Gaucho's home field.

Lady Panthers run to section title

Duffy wins Division 4 race and St. Mary's surprises the field at Meet of Champions

By Peter Mentor

Imagine how great was it to be in school Monday morning at St. Mary's High after a weekend of incredible success.

The girls cross country team stunned the field by winning the North Coast Section Meet of Champions Division 5 title. The football team upset undefeated El Cerrito High to stay alive in the NCS 2A football playoffs. Even the debate team won for goodness sakes.

And how great must it have been to be Bridget Duffy, the standout St. Mary's sophomore who continues to amaze everyone after winning the NCS Meet of Champions Div. 4 cross country title by running the rolling 3.1-mile course at Hayward High in 18 minutes, 53 seconds on Saturday.

Duffy's time was the fourth fastest of the day in all five divisions. She beat out 146 girls in her race alone and 431 girls overall from all over this section of the state. The same girl who missed qualifying for state by one place as a freshman is now headed to the CIF State Meet this Saturday at Woodward Park in Fresno.

Joining Duffy will be the entire St. Mary's varsity girls team on the heels of an impressive upset victory on Saturday. How big was the win? Campolindo and Miramonte were ranked Nos. 1 and 2 in the section, while St. Mary's was a mere

"It was like poetry in motion the way she ran."

— St. Mary's coach Denis Mohun

footnote in the pre-race program.

While those two teams were looking at each other, the Lady Panthers sneaked into position and captured their first-ever NCS title after just four years as a program.

"They've been battling each other all year," said St. Mary's coach Denis Mohun of Campolindo and Miramonte. "That's the first time we've ever beaten those two teams. I think we surprised Piedmont and Alameda in the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League. It was an excellent way to go into the Meet of Champions."

Duffy's race was a work of art. The young runner is quite mature in her strategy and she ran her race to perfection.

Duffy went out with Alhambra's Jessica Neu and the two hung back from the front of the pack for most of the race. As the race progressed, the two passed all the pretenders. Finally, Duffy pulled ahead at the two-mile mark on the pave-

See LADY PANTHERS, Page C2

St. Mary's faces rival De Anza

Dons looking to avenge loss tonight in NCS semifinals

By Scott Strain

When the St. Mary's High School football team travels up to El Sobrante tonight to take on De Anza in a North Coast Section 2A semifinal game, the shoe will be on the other foot.

The Panthers (7-4) got this far with a stunning 13-6 victory over previously undefeated El Cerrito (10-1) last Friday night on the Gauchos' home field. That was in retaliation for El Cerrito's earlier 34-9 dumping of St. Mary's during the regular Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League season.

Now it's the Panthers' turn to feel some revengeful wrath. The Dons (9-2) dropped a 31-30 verdict at St. Mary's two weeks ago in the final game of the regular season and De Anza would like nothing more than to put the kibosh on the Panthers title aspirations.

De Anza has one more motivation besides drilling St. Mary's to win this game. Long-time head coach Greg Ochs has announced his retirement after the season. The Dons would like to give Ochs a chance to coach at least two more games.

St. Mary's coach Dan Shaughnessy, still bearing over his team's victory over El Cerrito at the school's open house on Sunday, was less than enthusiastic about meeting De Anza again.

"I guess we have to go up there and play them," he said. "I'd rather it be down here, but they are the higher seed."

The Dons are the No. 2 seed in the playoffs and the Panthers are No. 8, even though St. Mary's beat De Anza in the head-to-head league matchup.

De Anza defeated Campolindo 24-14 in another NCS first-round game at home before a small crowd Friday night. The Dons rushed for 247 yards and got touchdown runs of 6 yards from Rodney Burton and 3 yards from Ronnie Wallace. Burton also caught a 19-yard touchdown pass from Antranik Avedikian. Burton rushed for 130 yards on 15 carries as the Dons gained 247 yards on the ground.

See REMATCH, Page C2

Arts

Disturbing Irish 'Queen' a royal success

By Pat Craig

Lee presses on *W*ork Ethic: Lee Rodgers is the James Brown of local radio. Which might sound a bit funny, considering Lee's a white Midwesterner working for a conservative talk station, KSFO. But the acerbic Rodgers probably logs more office hours than any jock in local radio. But besides being 'The Hardest-Working Man in Radio,' he's also the wittiest. That is, if you can take his conservative politics, which isn't easy sometimes.

Rodgers' morning show starts at 6 a.m.

He worked at KGO for a decade before jumping to its sister station (in between, he did a brief stint at KGO's 900 Front Street studios at midnight. That's right — a full six hours before air time. "I don't know how or why he does it," says one KSFO colleague about the popular Rodgers, who can be seen on KSFO's current TV ads (he appears in these with his morning partner, Melanie Morgan). The other day I popped into KSFO's studios to ask Rodgers if he still comes in at midnight. "Have I ever given you any reason to think otherwise?" he said with a smile.

Show preparation is one thing the well-informed Rodgers appears in the wee hours to read the wires, the Web and newspapers — but Rodgers is the extreme. Working light across the hall from KGO's studios is **Ron Owens**, who's no slouch in the show-prep department himself. (Owens compiles manila folders of press clippings for each guest that are sometimes an inch thick). Rodgers' Midwestern Protestant work ethic was established long before he joined KSFO, however. In the 1980's, when KGO colleague Jim Eason (who's also now at KSFO) was out on one of his numerous sick days back then, Rodgers would often fill in, then take a break and return to the air just hours later for his own air shift.

And in the days just following the Loma Prieta quake, Rodgers literally lived at the ABC talk station, doing numerous shifts. Rodgers had one leg amputated at the knee after a teenage accident, although I've never heard him mention his disability on the air, presumably because he neither wants nor offers pity. And during those post-quake days, his leg became infected, and Rodgers had to be hospitalized. (Rodgers, despite having one foot, also has a pilot's license — it takes two feet, real or prosthetic, to operate a plane's rudder pedals.)

If you can get by Rodgers' constant, tiresome, but occasionally colorful Clinton- and liberal-bashing and his hatred of taxation and bureaucrats, you'll find many humorous moments on his show. When Lee gets off politics entirely, he can be devastatingly funny. The other day when the subject of sex-ed experimentation came up, Rodgers tossed off this funny line: "You know what they say: 'The first time is research, the second time is perversion.'"

I understand why Rodgers is so political — KSFO's conservative audience, to a certain extent, expects it, something he acknowledged in an e-mail the other day.

But if the talented and funny Rodgers would just drop the right-wing politics, he would widen and increase his audience. And we need a local alternative to Howard Stern for funny radio during morning commute. The clever, bright — and hard-working — Rodgers could fill the bill.

Political-Incorrectness Update: By the way, after last week's item, Rodgers' traffic guy, "Officer Vic" (in reality ex-KNEW morning man Tom Benner) e-mailed me a friendly note to say he wasn't a liberal hiding in conservative clothing at KSFO after all. "I'm really a liberal," he wrote. The other "L-

Playing With Us: And then there's the guy who may well be "the hardest-working man on local TV." This month marks the 20th anniversary of tireless KTVU consumer editor Tom Vacar's Great American Toy Test. The Oakland station calls it "the most comprehensive consumer test of toys in the U.S. today." Some 90 major manufacturers donate toys for Vacar's tests, many of them in day-care centers, to test. They're then distributed to 10,000 students (age 2-12) to play with in 36 cities across the country.

BILL MANN
Media Notes

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See MANN, Page C4

REVIEW

■ **WHAT:** "The Beauty Queen of Leenane" by Martin McDonagh
■ **WHERE:** Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison St., Berkeley
■ **WHEN:** 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays-Saturdays; 7 p.m. Wednesdays; 2 p.m. Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays; and 7 p.m. Sundays through Jan. 7
■ **HOW MUCH:** \$33-\$48.50
■ **CALL:** 510-845-4700

verse, creating a damp, oppressive atmosphere in which to spin this tale of desperate people, clinging to the slightest strands of hope, and trying to make something out of lives that are frustratingly stunted by both the limitations of those living them and the stultifying territory in which they live.

There is, throughout, a hopelessness to the straits of Meg Folan and her middle-aged daughter, Maureen. But, within that is a sometimes-charming, sometimes-dark humor, used by the two women as well as the two other characters in the play, Pato and Ray, to combat the impoverished condition in which they are all forced to exist.

And, not far from the surface, infused in different ways in each of the characters, is a horrible, almost apocalyptic rage, something that ranges far beyond anger and gives the piece



BRANDON KARRER AND ANGELA PATON star in the powerful Berkeley Repertory Theatre production of "The Beauty Queen of Leenane."

HOT SHEET!

■ Berkeley City Ballet will celebrate its 26th annual production of "The Nutcracker" at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 11, and Sunday, Dec. 12, at the Berkeley Community Theater, 1930 Allston Way. Tickets \$17 adults, \$13 seniors and children under 12. Call 510-841-8921

■ UC-Berkeley's Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive presents "Roma/Pacifica: The Phoebe International Architectural Competition and the Berkeley Campus, 1896-1930." The exhibit opens Dec. 15.

EVENTS



EDGARDO CAMBON (pictured) of Edgardo & Candela, a salsa band, will perform songs from his new CD "Madre Rumba, Padre Son," at 9 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 16, at Kimball's East in Emeryville. Tickets \$10. Call 510-658-2555.

Gaia Bookstore

Antoinette Claypoole, Dec. 3, 6-3 p.m. The author will discuss her book "Who Would Unbraid Her Hair: The Legend of Annie Mae."

Shirley Ann Jones, Dec. 3, 8 p.m. The author will discuss her book "Simply Living: The Spirit of the Indigenous People."

"Her Words," Dec. 4, 3 p.m. A poetry reading by women poets.

Workshops — \$3; free if author's book is purchased. 1400 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. (510) 848-GAIA or (510) 548-4172.

The 2nd Annual Zoolights at the Oakland Zoo

Nov. 26 through Jan. 2. ZooLights features 100 glowing creations built specially for the Oakland Zoo. From a huge neon volcano erupting with light to colorful dinosaurs, lions and tigers and brightly colored birds, the various scenes may be viewed from the ZooLights Trail or from the new Holiday Train. In addition there is a children's carnival area and the "Holiday Village," at the Children's Zoo which has been transformed with gingerbread-men, candy canes, toy soldiers, gum-drop trees and many other goodies all ablaze with holiday colors. Proceeds from ZooLights benefit youth education and animal preservation at the Oakland Zoo.

\$5 general; \$3 children age 2 to 14; free children under age 2; one train ride ticket with each ticket. Daily, 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. (weather permitting). Knowland Park, 9777 Golf Links Road exit off Interstate Highway 580, Oakland. (510) 632-9525 or www.oaklandzoo.org

An Ichabod for the '90s

By Corey Lyons

In the latest morbid mind trip from director Tim Burton, Ichabod gets a dose of cool.

Burton, who has carved out a distinguished Hollywood career by taking a wrecking ball to conventions ("Edward Scissorhands," "Nightmare Before Christmas"), delves into another decidedly dark tale in "Sleepy Hollow."

And Ichabod Crane, the goofy-looking, lanky schoolmaster from Washington Irving's 18th-century ghost story, on which the film is based, is barely recognizable. Crane (Johnny Depp) is now a handsome New York constable, who is summoned to investigate murder in Sleepy Hollow, a soporific farming community in upstate New York. This version of Crane is handled

ANDY MOOG



On their toes in Berkeley

By Andrew Gilbert

ANN GREENE (left) will play the Sugar Plum Fairy and Berkeley's Alex Ketley (right) will play Sugar Plum Cavalier in Berkeley City Ballet's 26th annual production of "The Nutcracker." The show, which runs Dec. 11-19, will play at the Berkeley Community Theater and the Jackson Theater at Ohlone College in Fremont. Call (510) 841-8921.



JOHNNY DEPP, center, plays Ichabod Crane in Tim Burton's "Sleepy Hollow."

See SLEEPY, Page C4

See EVENTS, Page C4

ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS

"Metamorphoses" at Rep

"Metamorphoses," based on the Roman poet Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, will run Dec. 1 to Jan 16, 2000, at the Berkeley Repertory Theatre. Tickets range from \$19 - \$48, cash only. Call (510) 845-4700.

"End of Time" at City Club

"Quartet for the end of time," will be held at 8 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 70, City Club, 2315 Durant Ave. The evening will present timely thoughts for the end of the century from one of its most mystical composers, Olivier Messiaen, and Berkeley poet,

Mann

FROM PAGE C3

the country. Some 35 local TV stations run the results. A few years ago, Vacar showed me where the toys are received prior to shipping them to schools. This enormous collection of boxes filled half a warehouse in east Oakland. The Toy Test, not surprisingly, is a year-long project for the energetic Channel 2 reporter; cartons of voting results from teachers fill a conference room at KTVU.

KTVU's "10:00 News" will air a Vacar toy-test segment tonight. And a "Toy Test" special airs Dec. 7 at 7:30 p.m. Vacar's toy-test results can also be found at KTVU's website at www.BayInsider.com. If you want to know what real kids think about the year's new toys — and the old standards — this is the place to find out.

I'm just glad our two kids are now grown — so my wife and I don't have to make that dreaded annual run to the hangar-sized toy

playwright and essayist Leslie Scalopino. \$15 general; \$12 Students and Seniors. Call (510) 525-5211.

Nutcracker performed

"The Nutcracker" will make annual appearances at the Berkeley Community Theater and the Jackson Theater from Dec. 11-19. Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$15 for seniors and children under age 12. For time and ticket special information call (510) 659-6031.

Christmas Revels

"The 1999 Christmas Revels" will

store.

White Night: November, 1978, was probably the darkest month ever in the Bay Area: The Jonestown mass suicide was followed a few days later by the shocking murders on Nov. 27 of S.F. Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk by Sup. Dan White.

Tim Daly (of NBC's "Wings") stars as White and exec-produces "Execution of Justice," a made-for-cable movie premiering Sunday night at 8 on Showtime. White's sister, Tyne Daly, has a small part, and his real-life wife, stage actress Amy Van Nostrand, plays White's wife, Mary Ann. Local actor Peter Coyote plays Milk and Stephen Young captures Moscone's charm admirably.

The movie attempts to figure out what made White tick, and it's an intelligent, well-done production. But in the end, White remains a cipher. Everybody, certainly Milk and Moscone, was surprised when White went into a blind rage. Sunday's film just makes us wonder again why this "All-American boy"

was held at various times, from Dec. 10-12 and 17-19, at the Scottish Rite Theater, 1547 Lakeside Dr, in Oakland. The annual event combines elements of dance, drama, and song. Ticket prices range from \$12 - \$30. Call (510) 893-YULE (9853).

Pro Arts Sale

Pro Arts will host its 1999 Holiday Art Sale until Dec. 24. The exhibition offers unique gifts by Bay Area Artist. In addition, there will be a free reception to meet the artist 6-8 p.m., Dec. 9, 461 Ninth St., in Oakland. For more information call 510-763-9425.

archetype turned into a cold-blooded murderer.

Amazingly new: Finally today, I get hundreds of e-mail jokes each week, partly because everyone does, but partly because I solicit material for my humor column at CBS MarketWatch. I got one this week that I hadn't heard, and I'm hoping you haven't, either. I know Rodgers would love it, and it's funny enough to repeat for those who haven't heard it:

One day at a local buffet, a man screamed out, "Help! My child's choking. He swallowed a quarter! Help!" A man from a nearby table explained that he was quite experienced at this kind of thing. He calmly wrapped his hands around the boy's gonads, squeezed, and out popped the quarter.

"Thank you, thank you! Said the child's father. "Are you a paramedic?"

"No," replied the man, "I work for the IRS."

(Questions? Comments? E-mail Bill at Newsmann@aol.com.)

Sleepy

FROM PAGE C3

more like a protagonist in an Edgar Allan Poe story — he is spooked and cautious, yet fiercely determined. (Don't expect anything close to Disney's 1949 animated version.)

Constable Crane — who would have ever imagined?

Only Burton, currently the industry's unrivaled prince of darkness, whose credentials include "Batman," "Batman Returns" and "Ed Wood."

Using Irving's distinct setting and mood in "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow" as his linchpin to more horrid and disturbing diversions, Burton crafts one of his darkest and most visually-charged films since "Batman Returns" (1992).

This fantasy-horror film, which does not take itself too seriously, loses some of its luster heading into the third act.

It is here that Burton gives away too much; rather than retaining the story's haunting folklore and suggested terror, he starts crafting a classic horror tale.

But if you're willing to join him on this macabre sojourn through the Western Woods, it's impressive and fun to endure. Burton's masterful visuals never let up.

With screenplay credit to Andrew Kevin Walker ("Seven"), "Sleepy Hollow" is set in 1799 New York.

Ichabod is an eccentric and passionate detective who designs his own scientific utensils to explore crime.

At one point early in the film, he says, "We must use our brains to recover scientific clues." Not a bad idea.

The comment, directed at nobody in particular, prompts a New York burgomaster (in a cameo by Christopher Lee) to send Crane on a special as-

REVIEW**■ WHAT:** "Sleepy Hollow"

■ STARRING: Johnny Depp, Christina Ricci, Miranda Richardson

■ RATING: R (graphic horror violence and gore, and a scene of sexuality)

■ RUNNING TIME: 1 hour, 44 minutes

■ WHERE: Century Oakland 8, Jack London Cinema, UA Berkeley 7, UA Emerybay 10

■ GRADE: B

signment to Sleepy Hollow — the California equivalent of being sent to work in Barstow.

Thus, the plot unfolds. Sleepy Hollow, a tiny Hudson hamlet, recently has been plagued by a string of murders, in which the victim's are beheaded.

The suspected killer is The Headless Horseman, a country fireside bogeyman who has seemingly spooked the town since its inception. (He is played with a head by a shark-toothed Christopher Walken, and without by Darth Maul star Ray Park.)

As Crane makes his way into Hollow — which Irving described as "one of the quietest places in the whole world" — an overwhelming sense of dread hangs in the air.

When Crane walks down a desolate dirt road leading into town, there is a cemetery on one side, and a herd of groaning sheep on the other. The symbolism is hard to miss: there are scarecrows, jack-o'-lanterns, tombstones and raw-boned trees everywhere.

Burton's Sleepy Hollow is not the serene commune created by Irving;

rather, it's a dispirited town, bathed in shades of gray, most refuses to share.

Emmanuel Lubezki, director of photography, marks his debut with a black-and-white, occasionally with sharp color (spurting blood, etc.).

The prevailing Gothic tone is nearly enough to sustain on its own.

It is in Sleepy Hollow that introduced to the start Baltus Van Tassel (Morgan Freeman) owns the famed Van Tassel House, and reigns as man here; Lady Van Tassel (Karinna Ricci), the most mysterious town, especially by the Van Brunt (Casper Van Dien).

In his third collaboration — and the first in which he is not Ed — Depp gives an impressively turn as Crane. He contorts his face of oddball expressions and stumbles his way through investigation as the head count but never gives in.

The screen chemist is Depp and Ricci is weak as is awkward and poorly. Maybe it has something to do with Depp being twice as old as indie it-girl who seems a place in this period piece.

The Headless Horseman is a unusually sharp blade through Sleepy Hollow to missing melon.

Burton ends up giving the tom man once too much after as a result, this promises stumbles to the finish line.

Queen

FROM PAGE C3

an ominous overlay from nearly the beginning.

Still, the stunning conclusion, shocks when it comes, prompting a collective deep breath and the sense of being a part of some truly extraordinary lives. It is not difficult to understand why this play won four 1988 Tony Awards, including best play — it is a wonderfully attractive and appealing piece of theater.

Not that it's the least bit glib. "Beauty Queen" is set in a horribly poverty-laden section of rural Western Ireland, in the home of Meg Folan (Angela Paton) an elderly invalid, who is bitter, angry, and whether intended or not, is pushing her daughter, Maureen (Michelle Morain) to the edge of despair.

The truth is, Maureen has nowhere to run.

Her situation is, realistically, as hopeless as her mothers. Of course, she has relative youth on her side, but even with a pair of good, functioning legs, there is really no place to run, until Pato (Jeffrey King), an old flame, of sorts, enters her life and gives her reason to believe there really may be some hope for a future.

Many of his messages to Maureen are delivered by younger brother, Ray (Brandon Karren), who despite his best intentions, leaves them with Meg, who does her cruel best to see they are not delivered properly.

Meg, however, does not want to be left alone, so she does what she can to thwart any sort of eventual

success.

Both women enter their current odd couple arrangement with a past

Santa's Village On Solano

Dec. 3 through Dec. 23. The village is filled with live Christmas trees decorated by local merchants and filled with treats for everyone, running trains and lighted Victorian houses. Santa will be there to have his picture taken with you and your children. In addition there will be Victorian carolers, Cajun Christmas music, Dixieland holiday sounds and stiltwalking elves.

Free. Thursday and Friday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. 1236 Solano Ave., Albany. (510) 527-5358.

The 28th Annual Berkeley Potters Guild Winter Holiday Sale

"Y2K." Nov. 27 through Dec. 23. Nineteen professional guild members will display current works throughout their complex of open studios, offering among other things dinnerware, sushi platters, tile murals, vases, Russian teapots, architectural and garden sculpture, lanterns, fountains, jewelry and playful ceramic responses to the millennium.

Free. Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Dec. 13 through Dec. 23: daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Berkeley Potters Guild, 731 Jones St., Berkeley. (510) 524-7031 or www.BerkeleyPotters.com

REI Berkeley

A series of lectures on hikes and outdoors equipment.

Snowcamping 101, Dec. 2, 7 p.m. A slide/lecture by Chuck Collingwood of the San Francisco Bay Chapter of the Sierra Club on the essentials of surviving overnight in the snow: how to stay warm and dry, build a snow shelter, locate water, prepare meals in a snow kitchen and navigate with map and compass through avalanche terrain.

happiness for her daughter.

And the endgame continues from there in a wonderful high style that prompts a snarling, vicious and dark battle between the two women.

Both Paton and Morain are enormously talented performers, and are in absolute top form for "Beauty Queen."

Their battles, both with each other and within themselves, are bright, tough pieces of acting and give the show an edge-of-the-seat tension.

King and Karrer have parts that aren't as rich, but playwright Martin McDonagh gives them moments, and both men make the most of the roles.

And all of this is played on an attractive set by William Bloodgood, who gives the show an authentic feel and helps set the mood of desperation.

This is aided tremendously by Jack Carpenter's Lighting and Matthew Spino's sound.

In all, the play is a memorable slice of theater and, since McDonagh is still only in his 20s, solid proof there are loud, effective and vibrant new voices in the theater.

Snowshoeing Basics, Dec. 9, 7 p.m. A slide/presentation by professional snowshoe guide Cathy Anderson-Meyers on the basics of snowshoe fit and design, technique and winter safety preparedness. Included are a list of great Tahoe snowshoeing spots.

Skiing the Sierra Backcountry, Dec. 16, 7 p.m. A slide/presentation by Robert S.P. Parker and Todd Vangel of Sierra Mountain Center in Bishop on the many ways one can explore the East side of the Sierras for some fine backcountry skiing.

"Point Reyes Visions," Dec. 18, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Photographer Richard Blair and author Kathleen Goodwin will share some of what went into the making of their book "Point Reyes Visions" as well as autograph copies of the book, a remarkable collection of photographs and essays.

Free. 1338 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. (510) 527-4140.

The 16th Annual Teddy Bears And Friends Parade And Film Festival

Nov. 27 and Nov. 28, 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Children and their teddy bears will parade through the theater to the tune of "The Teddy Bears' Picnic" and then attend an hour-long screening of animated films. After the screening each child will receive a balloon.

\$3.50 for adults and children. The New Pacific Film Archive Theater, 2575 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. (510) 642-5249 or (510) 642-1412.

The 2nd Annual Artisan Craft Fair

Nov. 28, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Artisans from the Bay area will display jewelry, pottery, oil and watercolor paintings, quilts, books, poetry and crafts.

Free. Horizon Room, Claremont Resort and Spa, 41 Tunnel Road, Berkeley. (510) 843-3000, ext. 290.

Cohea

FROM PAGE C3

many people came out, and all the Dexter stories people had to tell," Cohea says. "I want to let people know where he was coming from. He wasn't a poor kid. His father was a doctor, and he was royalty on the Central Avenue scene in Los Angeles."

Besides performing music associated with Gordon, from his huge success with "The Chase," a brilliant tenor duet with Wardell Gray, through his early '60s Blue Note comeback, Cohea will be tracing the

various up and downs of Gordon's career.

After joining Lionel Hampton's orchestra at 17, Gordon became one of the first tenor players to integrate the rhythmic and harmonic innovations of bebop. A tremendously charismatic performer, he influenced a generation of saxophonists, including John Coltrane, Booker Ervin and Charlie Rouse.

Cohea's quartet features pianist Alan Steger, bassist Chuck Metcalf and drummer Bob Blankenship.

The Yoshi's tribute is sponsored by Jazz in Flight, the nonprofit organization that presents the annual Eddie Moore Jazz Festival. Show

times are 8 and 10 p.m.

Tickets are \$8-\$16 for Flight members. Call 510-272-2727.

Speaking of Gene, The Gene Harris Quartet had been scheduled to perform at Yoshi's early next month, but with special guests Red Norvo and Ernie Wilcox, both of whom form on his smokin' new CD, "Alley Cats." But the blues/jazz pianist has been unable to stop winter from building up his strength for an upcoming kidney transplant, with the donor.

The prognosis is good. Harris family will greatly miss all players and good things

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Calendar

FROM PAGE C5

Berkeley: serving women who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless; needs volunteers. The Center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Volunteers are needed for morning and afternoon shifts. For more information, call 466-5663.

Exhibits

The Berkeley Art Center, 1275 Walnut St., presents an exhibition featuring documents of activities last summer when the Pacifica Foundation shut down radio station KPFA on July 14. The exhibition contains over 100 items created from March 31 to present. These artifacts, by local artists such as Jos Sances, John Shendan, Annie Hallat, Eric Drokier and Steve Lyon, will be on view along with documentary photographs by Scott Braley, Rebeca Rodriguez, Brenda Prager, Alton Stross and others. "Literature Live," with writers associated with KPFA, including poets Gary Chandler, Jack and Adelle Foyle, Rafael Jesus Gonzalez, Adam David Miller, and Susan Stone takes place on Thursday, Dec. 2, 7 p.m. The evening will be hosted by Rob Lipton, the Berkeley Art Center's poetry coordinator. The event is free. Call 644-6893 for additional information.

The Richmond Art Center's, 2540 Barrett Ave., Annual Holiday Arts Festival takes place on Sunday, Dec. 5, from noon to 4 p.m. The free festival includes a full day of activities for the whole family. Handmade crafts sale and fine art auction, free hands on art projects for all ages, a holiday cafe will be featured. Call 620-6772 for additional information.

Lewis Suzuki, nationally known artist, continues his open house through Dec. 4, 5, Dec. 11, 12, Dec. 18, 19. Suzuki is well-known for his use of vibrant colors and the range and depth of his subject matter. The hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The studio is located at 2240 Grant St., corner of Bancroft Way and Grant. Call 849-1427 for additional information.

The UC-Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archives, 2625 Durant Ave., presents the third Matrix exhibition, "Teresa Fernandez/Matrix 182 supernova" opens Sunday, Dec. 5 and continues through Jan. 30. Fernandez is a New

York-based artist who creates sculptural installations that manipulate the audience's sense of physical space in relation to architectural form. Call 642-0808 for additional information.

"Window to the Unconscious: Surreal Art at the Close of the 20th Century," an exhibit of paintings, watercolors, and small objects has been extended through Nov. 30. The exhibit, from the collection of Margaret Alafi, is at the Gallery of the Center for Psychological Studies, 1398 Solano Ave., Albany. Included in this mixed-media exhibit are the works of Evelyn Glaubman, Solomon Fagan and Jon Larson. For more information, call 524-0291.

"A Changing Exhibit of New Work," exhibition continues through November at the Strawberry Creek Design Center, 1250 Addison St. #214. The exhibit features the works of Susan Brooks, Carol Shanks, Sherilyn Tharp, and Laurel Fennenga. Gallery hours: Thursdays 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. or by appointment. For more information call 845-2612.

"Snowmen in Summer," a solo exhibition by Carine Lederer takes place at the John F. Kennedy Arts Annex, 2956 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. Gallery hours: Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For additional information call 649-0499.

Lawrence Hall of Science, continues its new exhibit "The Atoms Family" through January 9. The exhibit explores the complex world of energy and matter. The daily live demonstrations include hands-on activities. The museum is open daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$6 for adults, \$4 for children seniors and students; \$2 for children 3-6. LHS is located above UC Berkeley campus on Centennial Drive. For information, call 642-5132 or check www.lhs.berkeley.edu.

The sixth annual "Women of Color Arts and Crafts Show takes place on Saturday, Nov. 27 from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at La Pena Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave. Admission is free. The show presents a group of exhibitors selling their original, hand-crafted work. This year features paintings, clay sculptures, textile, jewelry, quilts decorative functional furniture and wearable art. Call Adalia at 845-0422 for additional information.

An exhibition of exquisite Indian minia-

ture paintings dating from the fifteenth to early twentieth centuries, presented by UC-Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, continues through Nov. 28. Guided tours of the exhibition is offered by UC-Berkeley graduate students on Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m. For further information on these or any other museum programs, call 642-0808.

The Berkeley Potters Guild holds its 28th annual winter holiday sale during the weeks of Nov. 27-28 and Dec. 4-5 and during the entire week of Dec. 11-23. Nineteen Guild members will display current works throughout their complex of open studios. The Guild is located at 731 Jones St. at 4th St. just off the Gilman St. exit of I-80. Call 524-7031 or visit the web site at BerkeleyPotters.com

Alta Bates Medical Center presents work by members of the California Watercolor Association at its Community Art Gallery, 2450 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. The gallery is in the main corridor to the left of the information desk and main entrance. Call 204-4444 for additional information.

New Pieces Gallery presents a list of artists for the year 1999. Located on Solano Avenue, New Pieces is the only gallery which shows quilts and soft cloth sculptures and dolls exclusively. The gallery is open during store business hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday Noon to 5 p.m. except major holidays. Details: 527-6779.

Literary Events

The First Tuesday Magazine Article Reading Group meets Dec. 7 at the South Berkeley Senior Center, 2939 Ellis St. from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Space is limited. Lunch at the South Berkeley Senior Center begins at noon. Call 644-6109 to register.

A Discussion and Social group meet monthly, every first and third Tuesday, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center, 1414 Walnut Ave. The event is free. "What rules do you believe by, and what is important?" is the topic for Tuesday Dec. 7 meeting. The event is free, no point of view is pushed. No need to RSVP. For more information

call Robert Berend at 527-5332.

The Reading Edge is available for public use at the Berkeley Public Library, 2121 Allston Way. This computer scans printed text and reads it back aloud with a synthesized voice. It's available for anyone with a disability that requires its use to access print material. Users must compete a brief training session before using the Reading Edge; after that, reservations are needed. Call the Reference Desk at 644-6648 to set up a training session.

"Daily Word" readers Study Unity principles at Temescal Library, 5205 Telegraph, Wednesdays noon to 1 p.m. Contact Anne Allen, 843-5611.

Meetings

A public hearing on the designation of West Berkeley Shellmound as a City landmark on Monday, Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m. at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1902 Hearst. Call Stephanie Manning at 841-8562 for additional information.

Author Diane Dorans Sacks speaks about the interiors of many well-known Californians, from SF penthouses and Berkeley bungalows to coastal getaways on Wednesday, Dec. 8, 7 p.m. at the Builders Bookstore, 1817 Fourth St. Call 845-6874 for additional information.

California Retired Teachers Association, West Contra Costa Division #8, meet on Dec. 7, noon, at St. Luke's Methodist Church, 3200 Barrett Ave., Richmond. Nancy Gill directs the Pinole Valley High School Show Choir, Men's Quartet, and Women's Chorale in a seasonal musical program. Tickets: \$3 for the buffet luncheon. Call 234-3046 by Dec. 3, to reserve.

The City Commons Club meets in the Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave. every Friday. Social hour begins at 11:15 a.m. in the Venetian Room. Luncheon served at 11:45 to 12:15 p.m. \$10.75 or \$12.25. Speaker starts promptly at 12:30 p.m. Admission \$1 with coffee. Student admission free. Call 848-3533 for more information.

The Berkeley Communicators Toastmasters Club meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month from 7:15 to 8:30 a.m. at the Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant. Details: 524-3765.

The Berkeley Arthritis Support and Education Group meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except December) 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the Maffly Auditorium, Hemick Campus, 2001 Dwight

speaker information or to make reservations if you are bringing more than one guest.

Speak Smart! Join Beijing Express Toastmasters, The Smart Club! Meetings take place each Monday, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at Peking Express Restaurant, 2068 Center St. For additional information call 549-9671.

Toastmasters Meeting: Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice with us. Every Tuesday, Noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave. Berkeley. Call 883-6708 for additional information.

Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS) meets every Thursday evening at the First Baptist Church, Richmond, on Solano 238 between Arlington. Call Betty Coates 235-0490 for more information.

Joy of Yiddish: Yiddish conversation at 1 p.m. at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst. Call 644-6107 for additional information.

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Way. Dr. Brian Karp has treated many types of amputees with questions 251-5111. For additional information call 204-4563.

Toastmasters on the second and fourth month from 7:30 p.m., 2515 Hollingshead, 251-8257 for details.

Public speaking physical Toastmasters Club, 2515 Hollingshead, 251-8257 for details.

Spirituality and Healing: Healing Story Circles, Sustained group for people with life-threatening illness and Wednesday of each month, North Berkeley, Call 528-1222.

State Health Teas every second, third and fourth day of the month from 12:15 p.m. at the State Health Building, 2515 Hollingshead, 251-8257 for details.

Higher Alignment: 7 p.m. Mondays, fun, informative spiritual gathering.

See CALENDAR, Page

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NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ODD COUPLES

By PATRICK D. BERRY / Edited by WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS
 1 Telephone user
 2 I (play) "Down
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 3 Even body
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 6 "A man that is
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 7 Home of
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95 Kind of tracks

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98 — Xing (street
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99 Propeller-head

100 Diagonally

101 English

102 Professor's deg.

103 Hospital V.I.P.'s

104 Took to the

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13 Southeast Asian

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15 Gun with a

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16 Rattle

17 Bible reading

18 Name on a

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19 Clip joint?

20 200-milligram

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21 Straddling

22 Auction action

23 Exhausted

35 Of the

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36 John —

37 Fenced-off area

40 Cartoon dog

42 Flesh and blood

45 Lycanthrope's

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46 Waterskin

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Calendar

FRI, PAGE C6

Dinner \$30 Bancroft Way, Berkeley; (415) 533-5200

Arthritis Support Groups - Arthritis Support Group meets the second Tuesday of every month; 1-2:30 p.m., 204-4503. Call for additional special events.

Overeaters Anonymous, a 12 step monthly stroke support group. No advance reservations are required, drop-in anytime. The group meets the first Tuesday of each month from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Maffly Auditorium on Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way, Berkeley. Details: 204-4503

Music

The California Bach Society presents a Mass of Claudio Monteverdi on Friday, Dec. 3, 8 p.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Elmhurst and Bancroft. Tickets: \$20 general, \$15 seniors, \$10 students. Season subscriptions to the California Bach Society's choral concerts are available. For information, orders, or to receive a brochure, call 650-299-8616.

Prometheus Symphony Orchestra, Eric Hansen, conductor, presents its Holiday Concert on Sunday, Dec. 5, 3 p.m. at Saint Ambrose Church, 1145 Gilman St., Berkeley. Howard Hanson—Symphony No. 2 "Romantic" Igor Stravinsky—The Firebird Suite Giuseppe Verdi—La Forza del Destino Overture Admission is free, donations accepted. For additional information, call 527-1519, or www.PrometheusSymphony.org.

Duckson Distones, featuring Donald Bailey on piano, vocals, harmonica, Isaac Dixon, Acoustic Bass, Michael Landford, Drums and Larry Gustino on Fret-

less Gibson L4, perform every Saturday night from 10 to 11 p.m. at Anna's Place, 1801 University at Grant. All ages welcome.

The Jazzschool presents Sunday afternoon concerts at 4:30 p.m. at the Jazzschool LaNote Restaurant, 2375/77 Shattuck Ave. The concerts feature appearances by nationally-renowned artists and top jazz musicians living in the Bay Area. The talented faculty will be featured including Mike Zilber, Bill Douglas, Jenna Mammia, and Christy Dana. Tickets for Sunday concerts are \$12 general, \$10 students/seniors, \$6 Jazzschool students and children up to 12 years of age. Advance reservations are recommended. Call 594-5373 for additional information.

Friday Night Folk Dancing: 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.; no partners necessary for line dances taught from Rumania, Bulgaria, Israel, Turkey, Near East and other lands each Friday from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m., followed by request dances from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. No experience necessary - all ages welcome. Albany YMCA, 901 Kains Ave.; \$4; call 525-1542.

Saturday Metaphysical Toastmasters; meetings on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month from 6:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Call 843-7645.

Toastmasters; noon - 1 p.m. Tuesdays; stand up and say what you mean; practice with the toastmasters; 700 Heinz Ave., Berkeley; 883-8708.

Lisa Bates Rehabilitation Center and East Bay Neurology sponsors a free

monthly stroke support group. No advance reservations are required, drop-in anytime. The group meets the first Tuesday of each month from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Maffly Auditorium on Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way, Berkeley. Details: 204-4503

The Jazzschool presents Sunday afternoon concerts at 4:30 p.m. at the Jazzschool LaNote Restaurant, 2375/77 Shattuck Ave. The concerts feature appearances by nationally-renowned artists and top jazz musicians living in the Bay Area. The talented faculty will be featured including Mike Zilber, Bill Douglas, Jenna Mammia, and Christy Dana. Tickets for Sunday concerts are \$12 general, \$10 students/seniors, \$6 Jazzschool students and children up to 12 years of age. Advance reservations are recommended. Call 594-5373 for additional information.

Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., presents Grateful Dead DJ night with Digital Dave and Z.Z. on Thursday nights from 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Tickets are \$4. Call 594-1400 for additional information.

Friday Night Folk Dancing: 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.; no partners necessary for line dances taught from Rumania, Bulgaria, Israel, Turkey, Near East and other lands each Friday from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m., followed by request dances from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. No experience necessary - all ages welcome. Albany YMCA, 901 Kains Ave.; \$4; call 525-1542.

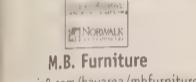
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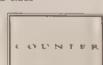
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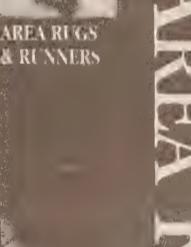
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The Auto Section

The Montclarion, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Alameda Journal

November 26, 1999

Section D

Motor Biz Audi TT sales bolster interest in A4, A6 models [D2]

Auto Doc Pop the hood and say, 'Ahh.' Junior Damato has the cure [D2]

Classic Classics Where's that 1927 Rolls Royce Phantom been hiding? [D3]

Elantra great value, but note the flaws

Keane on Wheels

By Tom Keane

Is this the beginning of a warranty war? Twice now, a manufacturer has boasted of the "best" and "longest" warranty. Both vehicles are of foreign origin, this one from Korea.

The 2000 Hyundai Elantra has a 10-year, 100,000-mile powertrain warranty that covers most of the engine and transaxle components. What is more surprising, this vehicle is not a top-of-the-line luxury car.

The total price of this tester is well under \$15,000, making me wonder why high-priced car manufacturers don't stand behind their products with long-term commitment. Base price is \$12,549; the vehicle I drove, with a few options, cost \$14,139.

Does a warranty mean the engine is flaw-proof? Not at all. In fact, my tester's "check engine" light started glowing on the instrument panel a few days after I got it – and it didn't even have 1,000 miles on it. I never did determine the reason for the malfunction.

That's why I'm hesitant to mention the cantankerous transmission shifting, or the jerky ride until the engine heated, and the dubious overall performance. Besides, all this is covered by the 10-year warranty.

During the first few days of my test-drive, the engine purred like a kitten.

See ELANTRA, Page D2



THE ELANTRA won't accelerate onto a freeway with gusto. What it will do is net economical fuel economy.

Drive, She Said

By Denise McCluggage

"Crossover" is just another way of saying we don't know what to call it."

Designers aim for fun, function

Judging from an assortment of new concept cars I've seen, either in person or from the recent Tokyo Motor Show, the automotive world is finally catching on to what I knew some 15 years ago. Versatility is big.

I knew it, and so did all the other owners of a four-wheel drive Colt Vista, a Mitsubishi-made chameleon generally referred to as a "tall station wagon."

I once said it could fold itself into everything but a white crane, that's how versatile it was. And that's what's coming, folks. Updated versions of tallish and squarish, with the interior flexibility of a Chinese acrobat. Flexible, functional. Set

See FUNCTION, Page D2

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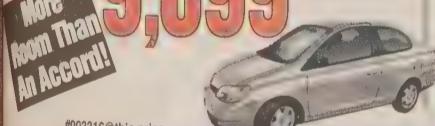


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Timing belt not the only suspect when car runs rough

Dear Doctor: I own a 1987 Dodge Shadow with 115,000 miles. I purchased the car with 95,000 miles. The problem is the engine runs rough since I had the timing belt and water pump replaced. The engine ran perfectly before the job. What could be wrong? Ed

Dear Ed: If the timing belt were off a tooth either way, the engine would still idle smoothly. For the engine to be rough, a vacuum line, fouled spark plug, or stuck EGR valve could be the problem. If you feel uncomfortable with the shop that did the repair, try another shop for their opinion on the problem.

Belts go 60,000 miles or so

Dear Doctor: I am under the impression that timing belts should be replaced every 60,000 miles. What about timing chains? I was told that in some cases, if either breaks, the engine could suffer major damage. How can I tell which is the problem? Is there a mileage limit on timing chains? Robert

Dear Robert: Each manufacturer has its own mileage interval replacement for the timing belt. On average, 60,000 miles is a good time for replacement.

Timing chains, depending on engine and driving habits, will last from a low of 75,000 miles up through 200,000 miles. The more stop-and-go, the sooner they will stretch and

Ask the Auto Doctor

By Junior Damato

If the timing belt were off a tooth either way, the engine would still idle smoothly."

break without warning. Manufacturers will list if the engine is free wheeling or not.

Check battery right way

Dear Doctor: I own 1992 Pontiac Grand Am with 100,000 miles. On hot days the engine will not restart after being driven 30 miles or more when I shut it off to run into the store. The engine has to cool down for a few hours. I have to get a jump start if I want an instant restart. The battery, alternator and starter all check out good. What else is there? Sam

Dear Sam: The heaviest load is put on both the starter and alternator when hot. The correct way to check a fully charged battery is load test half the cold cranking amps for 20 seconds. If the battery drops be-

low 9.6 volts during the load test, replace it. The most common mistake people make is buying a low cold crank amp inexpensive battery. This is one time when bigger is always better.

The next step is the starter motor may be very hot from the engine temperature. There are universal insulation blankets for starter motors. A check of positive and ground connections is important. Make sure the alternator output is at specs. On some rare cases, the engine may have internal problems that show up under extreme hot conditions.

An alternate plan

Dear Doctor: I have long been an owner of Buick cars. Currently I own 1998 Buick Park Avenue Ultra with 64,000 miles on it. In July of '98, at 55,000 miles I had to have the original alternator replaced, along with a new battery. Since then I have been back like clockwork every 90 days for another alternator replacement at no charge. The most recent alternator was purchased from a different supplier in hopes of a longer than 90-day life. Could the shop be missing something in the installation of the alternator? Jerry

Dear Jerry: There are many so-called alternator rebuilders companies out there that do a poor job on the rebuilding. There are even fewer shops that do a good job. Next is the

ground connection, some alternator replacements suggest an additional ground wire.

A poor ground connection will cause the alternator to overheat and go to alternator heaven. You also mentioned a new battery replacement; have the shop check the new battery under a load test as well. I always use a name brand remanufactured alternator, if available, even a factory Delco unit.

Put that noise to the test

Dear Doctor: I recently purchased a 1996 Toyota Corolla with 30,000 miles. I noticed the car seems a bit noisy. It kind of sounds like I am driving through a tunnel. Is this a normal condition? Ellen

Dear Ellen: The Corolla is a fairly quiet car. There will be some wind noise while driving on the highway.

Take the car to the shop for a road test for their opinion.

There is a possibility the noise may be coming from the tires due to scalloping or thread design.

I like a smooth nonaggressive thread design for summer driving, or aggressive tires for winter driving.

Some brakes in recall

Dear Doctor: I own a 1988 Chevrolet pickup with rear wheel anti-lock brakes that wear out front brake pads, and not the rear brake shoes. At 100,000 miles, a trouble

code led the technician to the ABS computer. I asked why the rear brakes outlasted the front pads. The rear brakes are original. After spending \$600, they said there's nothing they can do about the long-lasting rear brakes. I never feel pulsing in the brake pedal when backing the car out of the garage, like I did a year ago. This truck has always had poor braking. What do you think? Richard

Dear Richard: You are the first to complain about poor brakes on GM trucks, especially models with ABS systems. There are certain models under a recall.

I suggest you call the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration at 800/424-9393 and give them your Vehicle Identification Number.

I find too little hydraulic pressure going to the rear brakes when the brake is applied. This is caused by either the design of the ABS unit and/or the proportion valve. There are aftermarket adjustable proportion valves available at many speed shops. I have installed many over the years with success.

Don't skimp on safety

Dear Doctor: I own a 1998 Mercury Sable with 65,000 miles. My service adviser suggested that I have the engine mounts replaced at a cost of \$450. He said mount replacements are a common problem. Are you aware of this? Why should this hap-

pen? Is the price in?

Dear Bill: I have a '96 Sable. I mounts on your front and do a lot of driving. I do not know when the front mate comes in, unless wants to replace all four. A weak or broken front mate is a safety hazard.

Oh, that's rich!

Dear Doctor: I have a 1996 Ford Ranger XLT. It's a 4x4. I am restocking the engine. It's been 15 minutes. I have to hold the gas pedal down. Why? Russ

Dear Russ: It sounds like a fuel condition. This will not be a problem to solve. The suggestion is to check both fuel pressure and/or the proportion valve. There is a leaking fuel pressure line. A simple fuel pressure line can be removed to it. If there is an gasoline leak, the pressure will leak. When you hold the gas pedal to the floor, the pressure will drop down the fuel injectors, known as a clear fuel tank.

Send questions to: Auto Doctor, Court Circle, Lakewood, MA

Consumer interest in Audi TT roadster driving A4, A6 success

Ten trains run daily between Gyor, Hungary and Ingolstadt, Germany. The trains carry eight unfinished bodies cradled in special jigs in each car, along with parts from outside suppliers to Hungary. The next day, the TTs are assembled in Gyor and the finished sports cars are transported back to Germany for sale or export.

The TT has become one of the most sought after cars in the world. German buyers must wait two years for delivery and U.S. purchasers must wait about half that time. That's a real exception in the U.S. market where 1999 sales are shaping to be the best year ever for carmakers. Many sales today, however, are fu-

Elantra

FROM PAGE D1

However, it only purrs, it didn't roar. Under the hood is a 2.0-liter, four-cylinder engine that produces a modest 140 horsepower. In other words, this car won't accelerate onto a freeway with gusto. What it will do is produce economical fuel economy: 22 city, 31 highway, which is the EPA mileage rating equipped with a four-speed automatic transmission with overdrive.

It's easy to make snide remarks about what the Elantra doesn't have, but for a five-passenger, four-door sedan that is well below the average price of today's automobile, this import offers darn nice transportation. I was particularly impressed with the overall visibility from the driver's seat, and for that reason, I felt very comfortable behind the wheel.

There are a few differences between

last year's car (which is when Hyundai gave the Elantra a complete overhaul) and this year's 2000 model. There is an attractive chrome strip down the side of the body; the side view mirrors match the body color; a tachometer is standard equipment along with power windows; and it has better seats.

The rest of the car is just about the same, which means that it has a proven track record.

One track record of the Elantra is that it is Hyundai's best selling vehicle. There are also an Elantra wagon, an Accent, a Sonata, and a Tiburon – all boasting low prices.

A low price doesn't mean that the Elantra is a piece of junk. This is a well-assembled car with the passenger cabin protected by steel reinforcements, side impact beams and dual airbags. Even the three-point seat belts have the sophisticated pretensioners. The well-reinforced body allowed the engineers to assemble a better suspension for a comfortable riding car.

Down the Road

By Herb Shuldiner

eled by incentives and other discounting schemes.

Audi is one of the few brands that can boast of cars that customers value for their technology and performance rather than for their discounts. This is boosting Audi sales to near record levels in the U.S.

Every TT is virtually pre-sold when it's delivered to a dealership. Audi hopes to double TT sales in 2000. This year's sales will be limited to about 5,000 units. But its im-

pact is far greater than the number of TTs that are actually sold. The TT has generated more showroom traffic for Audi dealers so they are selling more A4 and A6 models.

A roadster version of the TT is due to arrive in Audi showrooms this fall and should help boost sales of the brand even more.

If Audi doesn't quite surpass its high water level of 74,000 sales in 1995 this year, it is certain to drive through that mark in 2000. Certainly it has been an amazing comeback for Audi, once on the verge of extinction in the U.S.

A television newsmagazine report that Audis were producing unintended acceleration that caused ac-

cidents in which drivers were injured or killed sent sales of that brand into a tailspin. Sales got so low that Volkswagen, Audi's parent company, seriously considered yanking the brand from the U.S. market. Audi had virtually dropped off the radar screen in the U.S. in 1994.

Then a new marketing team, headed by Gerd Klauss, took over the job of selling Audi cars. The team came up with the brilliant idea of unbundling the quattro all-wheel drive option from a \$10,000 package. Audi dropped the quattro price to a mere \$1,500 and the brand's sales started to skyrocket.

Since then sales have climbed by more than 20 percent annually to

make Audi once again an important competitor in the European luxury car segment. Klauss' work with Audi was so successful that he was promoted to head all Volkswagen operations in the U.S.

Audi doesn't have ambitions to compete in volume with BMW, Mercedes or Lexus. Walter Hanek, Audi's marketing director, says the sales of a luxury car company should be limited to 100,000 units annually to retain exclusivity. Audi's three principal competitors have already roared through that level, thanks largely (except BMW) to the sale of sport utility vehicles they recently introduced.

Audi, however, is sticking to a line-up of cars that are, arguably, the most elegantly designed cars an auto company can boast. Six Audis, save for the flagship A8, are bounding ahead at a record pace. Sales are Audi's one great concern. Audi says it's largely dealers don't know how to sell.

Hanek says that Audi doesn't sell the A8 as a true luxury. Thus, they offer big discounts. A8 that tend to turn off some buyers who are looking for much as technology and performance. One solution may be to allow the number of Audi dealers to sell the A8.

SPECIFICATIONS

2000 HYUNDAI ELANTRA

Vehicle type	5-passenger 4-door FWD sedan
Base price	\$12,549 (as tested: \$14,139)
Engine type	4-cylinder 16-valve DOHC w/MFI
Displacement	2.0-liter
Horsepower (net)	140 at 6000 rpm
Torque (lb-ft)	133 at 4800 rpm
Transmission	4-speed automatic with OD
Wheelbase	100 in. 2540 mm
Tread (front/rear)	58 / 57 in. 1473 / 1447 mm
Overall length	174 in. 4419 mm
Overall width	67 in. 1701 mm
Height	55 in. 1397 mm
Turning circle	2 ft. 9.75 m
Curb weight	2683 lbs. 1196 kg
Fuel capacity	14 gals. 54L
EPA mileage rating	22 city, 31 highway
Assembly plant	Ulsan, Korea
Strong feature	Interior visibility
Weak feature	Transmission



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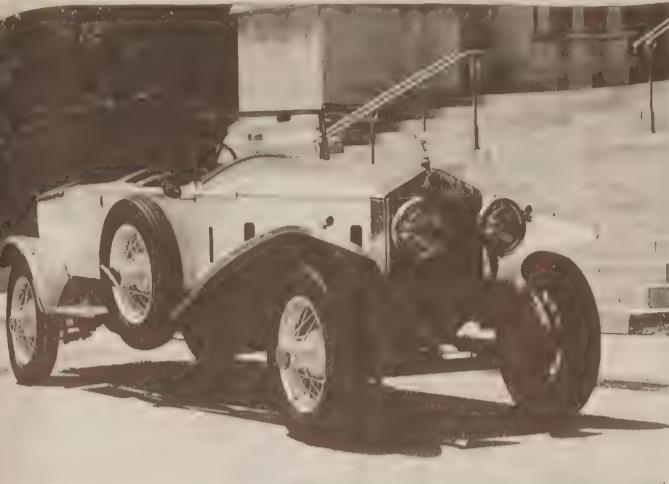
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1927 ROLLS ROYCE Phantom I.

HANDOUT PHOTO

‘Lost’ 1927 Rolls Phantom I makes stately entrance

Classic Classics

By Vern Parker

The speedometer only records speeds up to 90 mph, but Rosner says his car can't go past 68 mph. "At that speed, aerodynamics comes into play," Rosner says.

right-hand-drive Rolls-Royce features, from the left, instruments to record water temperature, speed, amperes and oil pressure. A tiny rearview mirror sits atop a slender pedestal on the dashboard above the instruments. The gasoline gauge is mounted on the 18-gallon tank at the rear of the car. The speedometer only records speeds up to 90 mph, but Rosner says his car can't go past 68 mph. "At that speed, aerodynamics comes into play."

The Rolls-Royce has only three doors. Where the driver's door might be expected is where the spare tire is mounted. Since the driver has no door, the floor mounted hand brake and four-speed gear shift lever are placed at the driver's right knee. All of the three doors, with no outside handles, have pockets in the leather upholstery. Both the front and rear seats are just slightly more than three feet wide.

Rosner discovered that long after Sir Henry Royce had once driven the car, one of the more recent owners of the car had lost the car through repossession. Before it was taken from him, he removed anything that wasn't nailed down: the spirit of ecstasy mascot, the spare tire, tools, wheel wrench and, unbelievably, the fabric top, leaving just the bows.

Rosner was able to replace all of the missing parts except the top. Since this is the only car in the world the top would fit, he sought to have it returned. Being quoted a price for more than what a replacement would cost, the deal was rejected. He hardly ever has the replacement top up.

Whenever Rosner climbs through the left door to board his 72-year-old Rolls-Royce Phantom I and settles in behind the four-spoke steering wheel, he simply disregards the fact his car delivers eight mpg. He basks in the reflected glory of a beautiful car so well made. "It's just great," he says.

gine with a seven-gallon cooling system rarely overheats. The 16 vertical vanes forming the grille are manually operated, instead of the more common thermostatically-operated vanes.

Of course, such an arrangement requires the driver to keep an eye on the temperature gauge. The 14-inch diameter headlights in front of the famous radiator shell are not overly efficient.

"They cast a light beam 20-feet out and 90-feet wide," Rosner says.

The overhead valve, six-cylinder engine runs happily with six quarts of oil in the aluminum alloy crankcase. Even though the electrical system is 12 volt, the starter is chain-driven. Therefore, when the floor starter is stepped on, the engine only reluctantly begins to turn.

The 16-foot, 10-inch-long car rides on a 150-inch wheelbase supported by 7.00x21-inch Dunlop tires on 84-spoke wire wheels painted the body color.

The wooden dashboard of the

SPARE PARTS

MB roadster concept

Mercedes-Benz has unveiled a new roadster concept based on its SLR high-performance sports car. Called the Vision SLR Roadster, the open-top two-seater blends futuristic styling from the current Mercedes Formula One World Champion race car. It has classic design elements from the famous Mercedes SL sports car and SLR racer of the 1950s. The convertible top on the SLR is the first to be made of a new transparent material, which lets in light and retains much of the pleasure of open-top driving, even when the top is up.

Brake for wildlife

The Humane Society of the United States urges motorists to be wary about deer and other animals. Collisions with wildlife usually increase this time of the year because it is hunting season for deer, moose and other large mammals. Hunting seasons and the change to Standard Time disrupt normal patterns for both wildlife and drivers. Expect to see most animals at dawn and dusk when many animals are most active. If you see one, slow down, expect more to follow.

Honda record sales

For the first time in American Honda history, the automaker topped the one million mark in model year sales, totaling 1,067,468 cars and trucks for 1999. Odyssey minivan sales of 56,027 reflect a 92.5 percent increase over the previous year.

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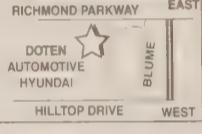
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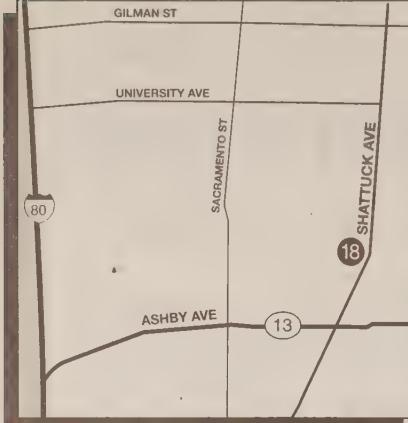
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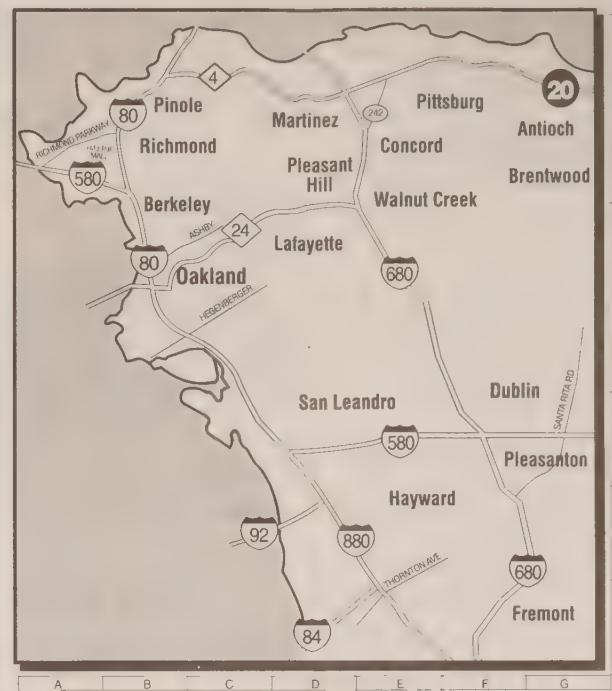
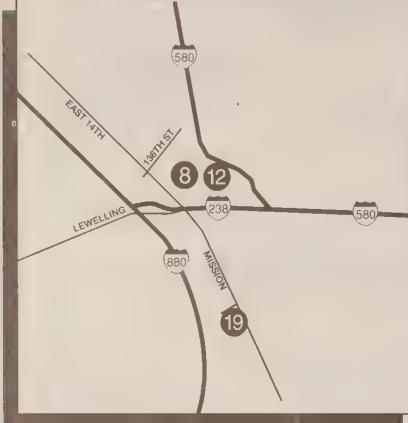
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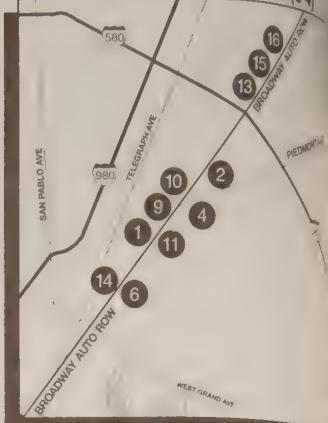
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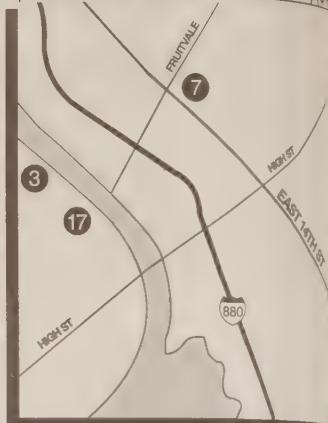
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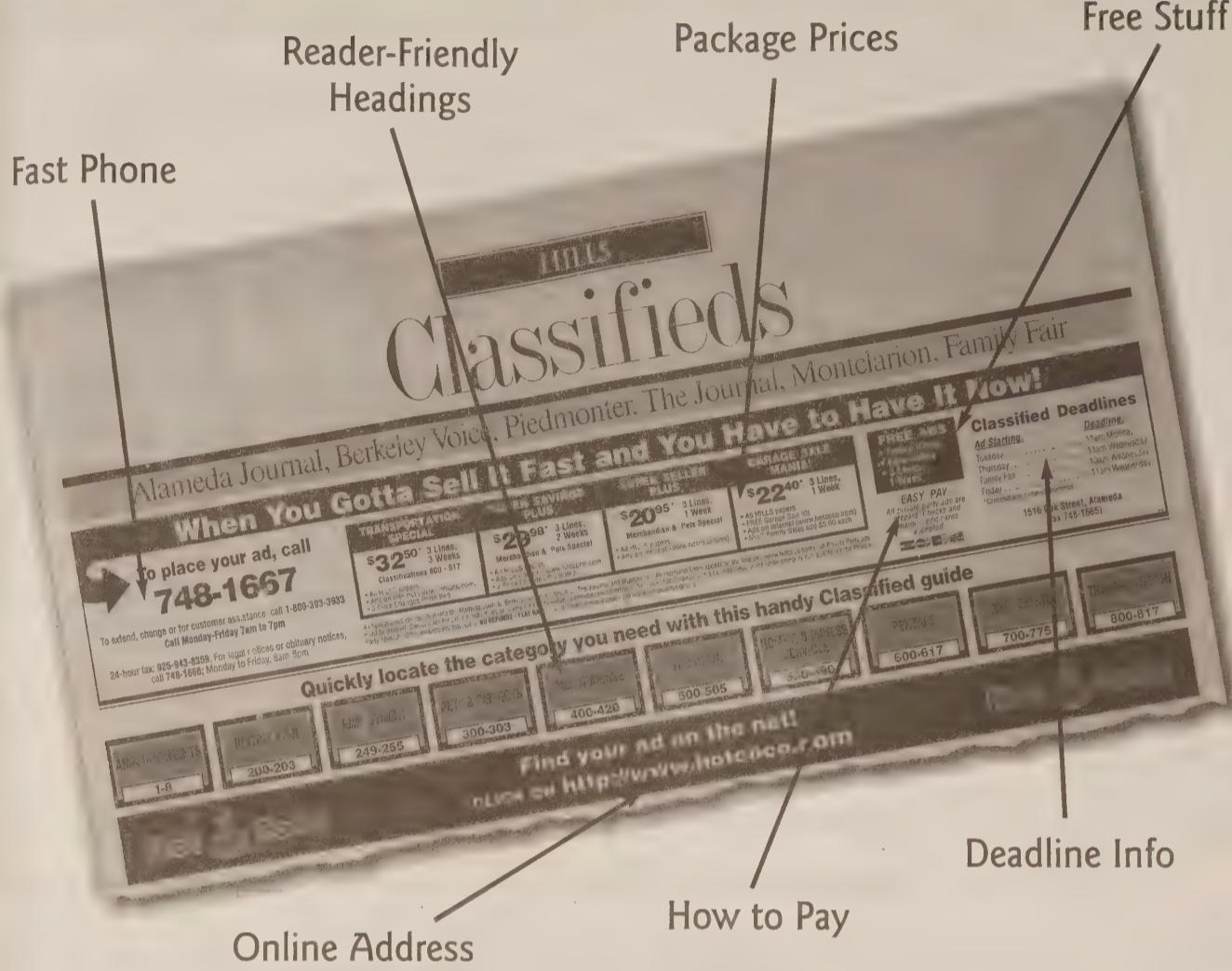
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Don't Be A Turkey. The Deals Won't Last.

Town &
Country Ltd.
3.8L, Leather,
Power Package
#252810@this price

Grand
Cherokee Ltd.
Leather, CD, Infiniti Sound
System, All Terrain Tires & More
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This is the sale you've been waiting for!
With every available Jeep you could
ever want - from Laredo and
Wrangler to Cherokee, PLUS
No Down Payment, and great
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Buy now for only

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Pre Owned Specials • Just This Weekend • Offer Ends Sunday

95 SS Impala **MUST SELL**97 Honda Accord LX Wgn. **REDUCED**97 Jeep Wrangler **\$13,995**95 Chevy Suburban **MUST SELL**

STOP PAYING FOR THEM

98 Cadillac Deville **MUST SELL**98 Infiniti I30 **REDUCED**96 Maxima **\$16,999**97 Eclipse **\$13,999**

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COCHRAN & CELLI
JEEP • CHRYSLER • PLYMOUTH
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See prices after rebate plus tax & lic. doc. fees. Subject to prior sale. *Price excludes leases. Sale ends 11-29-99.

See dealer for details for college Grad rebate.

Toyota's Cost Less at ... **Ron Goode TOYOTA** The best deals Are GOODE Deals

Super Sale **1.9%** **3.9%** **4.9%**
24 MO. 36 MO. 48 MO.

Up to \$20,000 financed on approval of credit, through TMCC on Camrys, Corollas, Solaras and Tacomas

2000 COROLLAS

\$11,999/OR \$119 **ONLY 39 MONTHS**

Model 1714 w/ H.P. only

39 Month closed end lease w/ option to purchase \$128.81 payment inc. tax, \$5023.59 total of payments, \$1974.08 Drive off, \$8151. res. dual 12000 miles per year

2000 CAMRYS

\$15,999/OR \$139 **ONLY 39 MONTHS**

Model 2525 with H.U. only

39 Month closed end lease w/ option to purchase \$150.46 inc. tax, \$586.84 total of payments, \$1990.99 Drive off, \$12072.83 res. dual 12000 miles per year

2000 TACOMA

\$11,599

Model 7103 • 1 to Choose #587590

2000 TUNDRA

\$4000 OFF MSRP

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\$4500 OFF MSRP

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88 Toyota Celica.....

91 Pontiac Sunbird.....

92 Saturn SLI.....

95 Geo Metro.....

95 Ford Escort.....

95 Ford Taurus.....

96 Isuzu Impreza.....

97 Dodge Neon.....

97 Geo Prizm.....

95 Mercury Villager.....

95 Toyota Tacoma.....

95 Toyota Tacoma.....

\$3,599

\$3,599

\$4,899

\$5899

\$6999

\$5899

\$6899

\$8899

\$8899

\$10599

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\$11499

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*7 day exchange must be on same price greater and in acceptable condition

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98 Nissan Sentra.....\$12899

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96 Mazda MPV.....\$15699

94 Nissan Pathfinder.....\$15899

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95 Isuzu Rodeo.....\$15999

96 Infiniti.....\$16899

95 Nissan Quest.....\$16899

96 GMC Jimmy.....\$17899

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96 Toyota 4 Runner.....\$25899

96 Toyota Land Cruiser.....Must See

95 Toyota Land Cruiser.....Must See

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254 Domestics

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Kinders. Early in the East Bay is currently hiring full & part time teachers for the following age groups:

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To qualify you must have a minimum of 6 ECE units. Inf/Tod teachers must have infant ECE units. We offer a \$1000.00 bonus pkg. 401k, & childcare discounts. For more info. Contact Recruiter @ 800-522-2484 or CONCORD

1551 Bay Rd.,
923-778-6888

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3760 Rock Creek Dr.,
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Ask about our Outstanding Staff Bonus Incentive EOE

Teachers
ON-CALL/SUBS

Needed for before/after-school childcare/childcare program in Alameda, U.S.A. 94501. Must be 2-30-530 p.m. as needed. Teacher Assist \$68.95. HR Teachers \$85.00. HR Part-time \$75.00. Work between 9:30-11:30 a.m. at 1724 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda, 94501. Direct questions to The Program Director at:

GIRLS INC
OF THE ISLAND CITY
No phone calls please

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1999-2000 School Year

The Berkeley Unified School District is currently accepting applications for the following positions:

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Candidates must possess a current California Teaching Credential or permit to obtain an emergency permit. Applications may be picked up at 1244 1/2 Webster Street, Berkeley, CA 94710, or call (510) 645-4154 for more information. AA/EOE

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404 Antiques and Collectibles

1926 SPANISH Revival furniture by McMillen Mfg. Co. Bed, 2 dressers, commode, sofa, secretary desk, entry bench, chandelier, etc. \$1,200.00. (925) 575-3397 for aptt./offer.

ANTIQUE sideboard 5'x8", marble top, excellent cond. \$985.00. (925) 510-1010

ART DECO - 60's SALE Furniture, Accs., Art, Clothes Jewelry, (650) 699-3326 - \$8. Deep, 20th c. sofa, \$1,200. Concierge, 8th/Brennan, S.F.

DINING ROOM Table: Cherry 6 hrs., butterfly leaf, \$600. 925-1499. (916) 510-538-0135

ESTATES AUCTION SUNDAY, NOV. 28 ALAMO WOMENS CLUB SEE ANTIQUES (404) FOR AD

FOUR PIECE RENAISSANCE READING Bedroom set \$1,250. 4 matching chairs, 2 armchairs with rush seats & lyre backs \$250.00. oak arts & crafts sofa, \$1,200.00. (925) 510-1010

The Antique Alexander Co., 1611 N. Broadway, W.C. (925) 510-1010

HAND painted miniature cottages design your own town. Not in store. 925-831-8265

I BUY ANTIQUES Furniture, porcelain, lamps, glass, ceramics, dolls, toys, jewelry, silver, etc. Terry (510) 335-2914. References avail.

OAK dresser & washstand w/ 2 doors, \$149.00. oak library bld, w/ 2 doors, \$149.00. All excel. cond. (925) 846-3486

PIANO, Chickering square grand, 1882, gorgeous rose wood. \$500.00 (925) 932-1766

POKEMON & Beanie Babies; Sting & Radar; Buy, Sell, Trade. (925) 536-7326

404A Collectibles

ATTN: Scale Model Makers 500 KITS WW2 IN BOXES 1.35 / 1000 \$15.00 - 21-8942

BEANIE BABIES Maple, Germain, etc. \$10.00. (925) 932-3671

BRONIES All Sept. Releases (all BeanieBabies & more). Call Bob (925) 676-5848

COUCHES All sizes. (925) 875-8245

COUCH: (2) L-shaped \$1,200. wood w/ sofa, recliner, etc. (925) 875-8404

CRIB: Crib, mobile, w/ driver, & access. \$500.00. (925) 519-0999

CRIB: Simmons, w/ washable cover, w/ mattress. Like new. (250) (925) 679-0920

CURIO: All bevelled Glass & wood. \$149.00. oak library bld, w/ 2 doors, \$149.00. All excel. cond. (925) 846-3486

DESK: exec. computer, solid oak, L-shape, 3 pcs. w/tilt swivel chr., both only 6 mos. old \$1,495. (925) 679-0920

DINETTE: country style, all wood, pine, 45x45x4x4, \$1,200. (925) 679-0920

DINING Rm: Baker furn. Iron & wood, 6 pc. set, \$1,200. (925) 679-0920

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DINING Rm: SET, 6 chairs, ex-wood, 6 pc. set, \$1,200. (925) 679-0920

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